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March 19th, 1915.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Tilton House,  
Andover, Mass.

My dear Elliott,

I was away from New York yesterday, and only received your Wednesday letter this morning. It is all right, we will go together to the P.A.E. Dinner on Friday evening, the 26th, and to the Alumni dinner on Saturday evening, the 27th. I will get the tickets for both of us for both dinners and will either send you your ticket for the P.A.E. Dinner or will meet you at the University Club, which is on the corner of 5th Avenue and 54th Street. You can easily get there from the Grand Central Station by taking the Fourth Avenue Cars which come up Fourth Avenue and turn across 42nd Street in front of the station and then go up Madison Avenue. If you get off at 54th Street it is only a short block across to the University Club.

Randolph and Harold and George are all home, although I think Morgan is not back yet. Harold came down with the Grippe on reaching home, but Randolph looks very well.

I spent yesterday in Scranton with Mr. Luce, speaking at some meetings which he had arranged in behalf of his College in Shantung. To-morrow morning I have to go to Hartford to a Convention of College students which meet there to consider the claims of the Ministry, and must come right back in order to speak at the Military Academy at Bordentown in the evening, and then get on to Philadelphia for Sunday, where I expect to speak at the University of Pennsylvania.

With a great deal of love from us all,

Your loving father

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SECRETARIES

July 20th, 1916.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o Mrs. Edward Bailey,  
Eagles Mere, Pa.

My dear Elliott;

The result of your College Board examination came yesterday. I have forwarded the certificate at once to Princeton, in view of Mr. Duffield's letter, which I sent you and have asked him to send any instructions or advices to you here in my care until Monday and thereafter at Diamond Pond. The certificate gave you the following ratings:

English Literature -	73
Vergil and Sigh	
poetry in Latin	90
Homer's Iliad, first	
three books	63
Elementary German	81
Intermediate "	74

Mother and Margaret, Constance and William, Louise and Jane got off comfortably last evening and the house seemed very lonely and quiet without them. Mother had not been able to do any of your packing, and I believe she telegraphed you advising your coming back on Saturday. I am sorry if this means that you will miss Jerry, but perhaps he will get in a little before you leave and give you some chance to talk together. It will be good to see you. I shall be expecting you to turn up at my office Saturday morning unless you decide to wait until Saturday morning to leave Eagles Mere and, in that case, I shall look for you at home Saturday night. As the trunks ought to

be got off Monday noon you would be less rushed if you had Saturday  
for packing.

With a great deal of love to all,

Your affectionate father,

RFS:C.



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SEP 12 1916

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SECRETARIES

September 7th, 1916.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Camp Diamond  
Colebrook, N.H.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose a letter from Dr. Keller which I found in my mail in the office in which there is a postscript to you: It is nice to have this account of the work that he will be doing when he gets back to China. I wonder where you will be nine years from now when he says he will try to be back ready to fix up any chopped legs.

It is pretty warm down here, quite humid and muggy, but both the nights since I have been home have been comfortable. Last evening Beda had a grand dinner for me. Mr. Williams called up before I got home to ask whether I could not come down there for dinner, but Beda informed him that she thought I had better stay at home for dinner, and I could not have got a better one anywhere than the grand beefsteak which Beda had and the nice cream and peaches for dessert. It went ahead of any of our catering in the woods. To-night I expect to go to dinner at the Sillers and to-morrow night at the Williams, and Saturday afternoon am going up to Northfield for Sunday.

The carpenters are still working on the porch roofs. They found them in worse condition than the house roof and have had to replace a few of the under boards and have an extra leader put in to make sure that the roofs will be dry in future.

The Larensens have the chains across their driveways so that no delivery wagons nor the callers can come in. They are not going out at all, and



Mr. Elliott Speer -2-

Mrs. Williams told me they intimated that they would rather not have visitors now. I understand that the children, however, occasionally get out on the street so that I am afraid the quarantine against the germs is not very effective. The Sailors say that there has not been a single case of the paralysis in Englewood.

Randolph Sailer is away visiting at present, and I went in to call on the Sailors last evening and found the whole family assembled while Dr. Sailer was reading "Pickwick Papers" aloud to Azzie's great delight.

I am sorry that Daly Warner cannot get up to visit you. I wish I could come back for that canoe trip on the Magalloway.

With a great deal of love to all.

Your loving father,

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JAN 20 1917

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SECRET

January 15th, 1917.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
321 Cuyler Hall,  
Princeton, N.J.

Dr. Broughton could see you today at five thirty at Bloomfield but suggest nine tomorrow morning at office. Will reserve this time for you.

ROBERT E. SPEER.

Charge Mr. Speer's personal account.



*Elliott Speer*

FILING DEPT.

APR 8 1921

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SECRETARIES

June 1, 1917.

My dear Elliott,

These are very full and busy weeks for us. Since writing you last Sunday in Pottstown, I have had hardly a moment in which to turn around except on railroad trains. I came back from Boston on Monday, and spoke that evening in Emily Sunday's Tabernacle at a missionary gathering where Mr. Sunday presided and took up a collection for the Armenian and Syrian Relief. The rain poured down in torrents and several times it was necessary to stop speaking because one could not be heard, and there were other excitements too from a crazy woman who came up one aisle and had to be carried out, and a drunken man who came up another. There was a wonderful attendance for such a dreadful night. Mother was there and we went home by trolley afterwards, the Bakers taking us down to the Fort Lee Ferry in their car.

The next day I had to leave for Chicago, but was back in about forty-eight hours, having had seven hours there in a committee meeting. It was a restful ride coming back, and the country was beautiful over the Alleghanies through the Juniata Valley, and especially in Chester County.

When I got home last night I found that Mother and Marnie had gone to Bryn Mawr where Mornay is to take her examinations, but Miss Aiken was with the children. Mother is coming home to-morrow, I think, but Marnie not until next week. The children were delighted with your postal cards from Paris, and I presume that Mother had a letter from you, but if so, she had taken it away with her. I have seen a very full account of your trip across the Atlantic, however, in a long letter which Howard Coan wrote to his Father and Mother, and of which they have given me a copy. I received a check from Mr. Duffield in rebate on your board account, \$58.50. There is no rebate on the other expenses. I think I wrote you of my signing the room lease in order to hold the room for Jerry and you, too, if the war ends and you get back this fall. There is no possibility of the war ending now; however, that one can see, and Dr. Lyman Abbott was recommending to some young men the other day that they should not interrupt their courses of study, but go right on and complete them on the ground that the war might last for twenty years. That, I believe, is an utter impossibility, and he probably meant it to be taken as a playful hyperbole just to strengthen his advice to them to go on with their regular work. I enclose a copy of a circular from President Hibben stating that the University is to go on as usual next year.

There were great decoration day parades and Patty participated in one which left her very weary, but she is now looking forward with enthusiasm to the Fourth of July, and William is earnestly hoping that the gun powder will not all be needed for warfare, and that little boys can have some to shoot off in fire crackers.

A letter from Gleister Dunlop came yesterday. Gleister was still bitterly disappointed that he had not been able to go to France when so many others whom he said were not eager to go had been sent. He is trusting, however, that he may be able to go over before long.

Elliott Speer -2-

The Y.M.C.A. work is opening up wonderfully in the officers' training camps here, but I think they have more men than they can use. Guthrie Speers gave up his church in response to a telegram from Dr. Mott, only to find out when he presented himself at the offices that all the places were filled, and that they could make a place for him at one of the ports where sailors often come ashore, but that there was nothing of the kind that he had had in mind in feeling that he was justified in giving up his church. The men who are in the camps, however, say that they never saw such opportunities for Christian work before, that the men who are there are just like a great crowd at Northfield or even better, and Henry Wright at Plattsburgh wrote that he was having the richest and fullest days of all his life.

Joe Cook is coming over for Sunday, and may go out with me tonight. Uncle Jim and Aunt Caroline are also coming, I think, and some Japanese friends will be out for the afternoon.

We think many times every day of you, and there are constant prayers arising for you out of many hearts.



Elliott Speer

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SECRETARIES

June 15th, 1917.

My dear Elliott,

We were delighted to get this week your note of May 19th from London, together with the pages of your diary covering the trip across the Atlantic. I am having a few copies made as all the people in Huntingdon are interested. I was in Huntingdon on Tuesday, going out Monday night and returning Tuesday night. I went for the purpose of making a Commencement address to the girls school in Hollidaysburg. It was a beautiful day. Your Uncle Charles Reed took me over in his car and we came back in the early afternoon after lunch. The road was fine and the mountains and the valleys were perfectly beautiful. I had not been in Hollidaysburg since I was a small boy. It was nice to meet many of the old friends, from Mr. King McLanahan, an old man of ninety, who was a cousin of my father, down to little Stewart North who was one of the flower girls in the procession. The boy who was a younger brother of the boy I used to go to visit is now the judge of the courts in that District of Pennsylvania, and his wife is the daughter of the old judge who presided over our courts when I was a small boy.

After getting back to Huntingdon in the afternoon we went out to the summer house at the lake on the Race town branch, created by the Power dam. You may remember when you and I were out in Huntingdon on our way home from Casdale we came down a very steep mountain road and went up to see the dam. The woods seem full of rabbits. I wish you could have been along for the evening dinner in Huntingdon. It was the old orthodox kind with more ice cream and strawberries than we could ever want with rich nut cake, of which they made you take the corner pieces with the icing on three sides. I am afraid if you had been along you would have seen the ghosts of your ancestors again.



I went up to call on the Great Aunts and they were as much fun as ever. Aunt Mima is ninety and Aunt Nan eighty-four, and Aunt Lou eighty-two. The way Aunt Nan talked about the Kaiser was scandalous. You know what a whimsical, genial old soul she is, but the Kaiser's left ear must have burned. She thinks the "good man", as she calls God, is altogether too patient and lenient with the Germans. Your Aunt Mary and Aunt Mig had helped in tabulating the returns from the military registration and some of the answers that they reported were quite amusing. One of the questions related to the color of one's eyes, and one country youth wrote "azure". Some who had wives and children claimed exemption and some did not. One would like to see back of all the returns.

Yesterday we had a tremendous downpour of rain. It was one of the heaviest rains that we have ever had, two inches fell in one hour. But it did not deter Patty and Billy from going down to the bank and each subscribing for a Liberty Bond. They told me about it with great pride when I got home in the evening. They did not understand clearly just what two per cent. meant, but they knew that they had each had to pay one dollar down, and would have to save up and pay the balance in installments.

Marnie is at Northfield now, at the Girls' Conference. Peggy Speer and Ruth Oliphant and Miss Aiken went with her. Mother was talking at breakfast of going up to-day to spend Sunday with her. Louise Dunlop is at home with us, and will look after the children. No one ever knows what is going to happen to Billy these days. He looks like a veteran home from the wars each evening. He gave himself a great gash in the hand with a knife last week and had to have the wound sewed up. He is very proud of it and goes down to Dr. Holmes each day or two to have it dressed. He and Patty have gardens laid out on the side lawn and he is about to go into the rabbit business. The Blakes have sold their new brick house and Mrs. Blake presented Billy with a



fine rabbit house and Mr. Bave is going to give him two rabbits, so that we shall soon be able to provision several brigades.

Last Sunday some of the sailers came out again from the Navy Yard. With them and Louise Dunlop and Dr. Mildred Jenks, who is going out as a woman medical missionary to China, we had a great party. The afternoon before the new missionaries had come out. Among the amusements we had a wonderful baseball game with many home runs, and a tug-of-war with the lariat which I brought home from South America for you. The Young Women Christian Association Secretaries, whom mother brought out, pulled the women missionaries over and were too much for them also for the lariat.

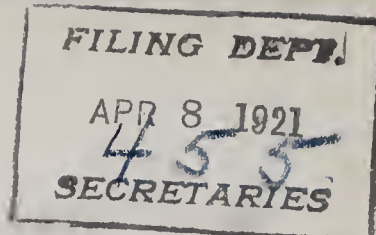
Mother has had lots to do these days getting the Women's War Work Council of the Young Women's Christian Association organized. She and Mrs. Chishman have been working very hard at it. Mrs. Davison and Mrs. Pomeroy are greatly interested in it.

The Young Men's Christian Association work in the Officers' Training Camps has developed wonderfully. Henry Wright of Yale is in charge of Plattsburg and says that these are the richest and fullest days he has ever lived. The camp is just like a Northfield Conference with everybody interested and as fine a crowd of young men, almost all from the colleges and universities, as could be gathered.

We shall be anxious to hear just where you are located, and I hope the arrangement of settling you two by two will be carried out.



Elliott Speer



November 12th, 1917.

My dear Elliott,

I am sending this letter in duplicate to your addresses in Bombay and London, not knowing what each week may bring forth in the matter of your plans. According to your last letter to Mother, received last week, you were expecting to be on your way to India before further letters could reach you. It may be, however, that that plan has been changed, and that you are still in England or in France. We shall be eager to hear what further news the next letters will bring, and if you have been sent to India to learn for just what work it has been. One comfort is that which you speak of in your last letter to Mother- that God guides the ways of his children if they will trust those ways to him and that wherever we are in His Will is the safest place for us to be.

Mother is in Harrisburg to-day in connection with the Y.W.C.A. Campaign, having gone over on Saturday. She goes to Chicago at the end of this week. All the members of their Board seem to be hard at work. I met some of them in Kansas City a fortnight ago. This week especially is a great time of financial campaigning. The Y.M.C.A. is trying to raise its thirty-five million dollars, the Y.W.C.A. its three Million dollars, the Play Ground Association, under the Fosdick Commission its four million dollars and there are other agencies also hard at work. I hope that the missionary Cause is not going to suffer.

Mr. Davis got back yesterday from a Red Cross tour in the West with Mr. Davison and Mr. Gibson. He preached the children's sermon in the morning and I spoke on Foreign Missions. The chapel was packed, and the Englewood Home Guard members were there in uniform. I have joined Company I of the Home Guard. It is made up of old men who are not called on for patrol duty but who are ready for whatever may be needed in times of emergency. I think I could pass the physical examination better



Page 2.

than the majority of the youngsters who are going into the army itself. We had a number at the house the other evening from Camp Merritt at Dumont, and one of them was groaning over a sixteen mile hike they had taken. I asked him how much of a load they had carried. He said that they did not carry anything but that the walk was dreadful. I tried to tell him something of our tramps over Crystal Mountain with sixty or seventy pounds on our backs. I wonder what the lad would have thought of the trip that which Mr. Strong and I made last summer, which was the worse jaunt I ever had in the woods, through mud and flooded brooks and pouring rain and the trail in worse shape than I had ever seen it.

Camp Merritt has not filled up very much as yet. Great herds of carpenters are still at work and the trolleys coming into town in the evening at the end of the day's work are packed.

William is having interesting experiences. He was looking forward with some apprehensions to to-day as he has a blood feud with two older boys, Chucky Peabody and Gratz Meyers, each one of whom is over twice his age and who he says are expecting to whip him to-day for some offense that he committed against them. He had laid elaborate plans for frustrating them however, and he belongs to a gang which, if he can assemble it in time, will be likely to fall on Chucky and Gratz after the fashion of the Red Dogs.

Cousin Helen Reilly's wrist is almost well now. She is using it quite freely and Dr. Holmes is after her all the time to make yet more use of it. Miss Bagley, of whom Mother may have written you, is still with us waiting for her hospital unit to be called for sailing.

The children would want to send you their warmest love,

Your affectionate father,

HES:C

Mr. Elliott Spear,  
c/o Y.M.C.A.,  
Wode House Road,  
Bombay, India.



*Ernest Speer*

FILING DEPT.

APR 8 1921

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SECRETARIES

November 23rd, 1917.

My dear Elliott,

I wrote you on Sunday from Washington, sending my letter to Bombay, and am now writing this letter sending it in duplicate, one copy to Bombay and the other to the Y.M.C.A. in Paris.

Since coming back from Washington your good letter to mother and me and the postal cards to the children have come, including your diary telling of your starting from Paris for the front. We are still not altogether clear from your letters whether there is a prospect of your remaining in France or whether it is definitely settled about your going out to India, and shall await with interest the letters that will give definite and conclusive word.

I am sending a copy of the Princeton Alumni Weekly for November 7th to your address in Bombay. It contains a list of the Princeton men who have gone abroad in connection with the war. The list is not complete however and I have noticed Harold Bulkley's name is missing.

Mansfield Kidder was married a little while ago and Mrs. Dan Platt, who is his Aunt, called up the other evening to say that there was to be a little reception for him and his bride at Tenafly on Saturday afternoon. Perhaps Mother can go. I cannot.

Our entire domestic life has undergone a radical transformation. The two rabbits have been given away to Dr. Holdenby. The children had great delight with them all summer and also endless opportunities for disputation as to whose turn it was to feed them. They presented something of a problem now that the winter is approaching and I imagine that Mother thought that their educational purpose had been served and that it would be more humane to turn them over to Dr.



Noldenby, who was delighted to get them and with whom they will receive the best of care.

Dr. Sailer, Uncle Ned and I have all joined the Home Guard. Dr. Sailer, I believe, has enrolled in the Company of the more active warriors and may be found on certain nights patrolling the neighborhood defending the Water Tower from dastardly enemies who might deprive us of our morning baths. Uncle Ned and I belong to the old men's section, and lend our moral support and are ready to do such duties as the aged and decrepit might be expected to undertake.

Mother had a very good trip she reports to Chicago and Detroit. Elizabeth Bailey Gross went with her. They stayed with Uncle Jim in Chicago. Uncle Tim is a great warrior- a Chaplain and a Captain and in charge of the religious work in the Camp at Rockford, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Mornay Williams are expecting to leave Englewood for the winter. I think they plan to sell the house they have been living in but will keep the little house in Walnut Street in which the Vanderbilts are living.

Englewood responded very generously to the Y.M.C.A. Campaign for \$35,000,000, which has ended so successfully. Our neighbors the Barbers were the largest givers. Mr. Barber has made a great deal of money out of his ships and has been exceedingly generous with it. Among the various things he has done being the presentation of a stained glass window to St. Paul's Church in memory of his brother Mr. Herbert Barber. I was amused at the report of the presentation in the Englewood Press which stated that the window bore an inscription containing in addition to Mr. Herbert Barber's name the Bible verse "There remaineth therefore a feast unto the people of God." I presume Mr. Tillotson's reporter thought that a "feast" was greatly to be preferred to a rest.

I was at an interesting meeting yesterday of the District Religious Work Directors of the Y.M.C.A. Each hut, of course, has its own Religious Work Secretary, and each camp its Camp Director and then there are half a dozen District Directors who are over these. It was a most interesting meeting with many evidences of the

good work that is being done. Nowhere did there seem to be a better work going on than at Camp Devons, Mass., where Henry Wright of Yale is in charge. There real personal work is being done of the kind that binds men fast to Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord.

With warmest love from all,



c/o Y.M.C.A.

Paris address. 31 Avenue Montaigne, Paris.

*Elliott Speer*

FILING DEPT.

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455  
SECRETARIES

December 12th, 1917.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o Y. M. C. A.,  
Wode House Road,  
Bombay, India.

My dear Elliott,

I have been writing you each Sunday by hand and sending the letter to Bombay. Have written also until a fortnight ago from my office each week, sending one copy to Paris and the other to Bombay. I discontinued this on the supposition that you would be on your way to India and it may be that you are and yet your last note, telling about your motor cycle accident, which came yesterday, seemed to indicate that the time of your leaving for India was indefinite, so I am sending this letter as before in duplicate.

I am glad that you and Crane got off so well. Is not it possible when a motor cycle gets out of order on a steep hill to reverse the engine or is not there any way of reversing the motor on a motor cycle?

I was in Williamstown on Sunday and wrote you a note from there which I was not able to mail until returning to New York. Leonard Labaree has left and gone into the balloon service and is somewhere in the south I believe. The College is very much thinned out and 54 men were leaving soon. This is the last chance for men of draft age to volunteer or to enter the Officer's Training Camps.

The Camp at Dumont has filled up rapidly of late. We had a little meeting last evening in the Roman Catholic Parish house at Hackensack, to consider the work of the churches in connection with the Camp. I went over with Mr. Dan Platt in his car. We took over several Red Cross speakers who were to address the meeting. One of them was a Belgium officer.

We have been having bitter cold weather the last few days. The thermometer



was 9 degrees below zero at Williamstown, it has been that much above here, with snow. Patty and Billy have had lots of fun with their sleds and with an old metal tray on which they slide down the crust of the snow.

Mr. George Merrill, the Episcopal rector at Stockbridge, Mass., spent last night with us. He was one of my dearest friends in College. He was educated in Paris and has a very strong French accent. He is a very interesting combination of High and Low Church ideals and full of lively human interest.

I have to go to Cincinnati to-night for a meeting there to-morrow. I am afraid that the trains will be late and am allowing seven or eight hours leeway on that account. I hope it is not as cold and snowy with you as it is here. The winter begins as though it meant to be long and severe. It will be a great hardship if it is, in view of the difficulties of transportation and labor and the consequent relative shortage of coal. I had a big extra bin put in our cellar, and although we were not able to have it entirely filled, we have a pretty good supply which ought, with economy, to carry us through until spring. The man I was visiting in Williamstown has coal enough and provisions enough both laid up, I should think, to carry him until next summer. My visit with him made me long for a little quiet farm in the country. The taking up of a farm is not an enterprise which a man with no capital should indulge in now-a-days, unless he is a skilled farmer and even then I imagine some capital is indispensable. Modern invention however is going to help a great deal now, especially in meeting the dearth of labor which in these days has been the chief difficulty of farmers. There are tractors made now which will do the work of a good many horses and a good many men and enable a man to dispense with perhaps two-thirds of the laborers who used to need.

All are well at home and Patty and Billy are growing steadily in all good ways. Marney says she is still growing too, and hopes Miss Sullivan will be available during the holidays to let down her dresses. We are looking forward to having her home again on the 20th.

With a great deal of love from us all,



*with Speer*

FILING DEPT.

APR 8 1921

Sunday Dec. 23, 1917.

455  
SECRETARIES

My dear Ellicott,

Harry Crane has been here this afternoon and we have sat by the fire in the living room and talked. He has told us about you and your experiences - about the motor cycle accident and the episode of the man who took your room and with whom you and he had such an unpleasant time. And he brought your aviator coat which Max Chaplin brought across with him. He said that when he left you were just waiting for passports to go on to India. Perhaps you are there now or are on your way. He could not tell us what the need was in India but thought Max would know all about it and I shall try to see him soon to have a talk with him. The Coans are with us and were delighted to have word from Crane about Frank Coan who is in Havre. How we should have rejoiced if you could have walked in in the aviator's coat!

We have a house full now. Miss Bagley, Mother's secretary, is in the linen closet which has been transferred into a little bed room. Louise Dunlop is at the Blakes.

The new church was dedicated last Sunday. I send you the Englewood Press regarding it. Today the church was full. It is beautiful now. And there was a big choir largely of our own people and the music was perfect. Captain Arthur Foote was home. I enclose a copy of the list of men and boys from our church on the honor roll. Dr. Dunlop has left Japan to go as Commanding Officer of a large Chinese coolie battalion, - Mr. Davis said this morning of 12000 - as laborers for the war in France or Mesopotamia.

The children are excited over Christmas. Marnie helps to keep them within bounds. I met her at the Grand Central Station on Thursday. She is almost as tall as I am and is looking very well with pink cheeks. But she does not stand up as straight as you used to stand or as William does now.

Dr. Sailer has with him today one of the finest Chinese I have ever seen. Mr. Chang Poling of Tientsin. I met him there two years ago. He is as tall as I am and speaks English well. He has a great school in China and is studying now

Columbia University. To see such Christian Chinese as he gives one new hope for China and for Missions in China.

I enclose a little leaflet of Bible readings which Mr. Wilder gave me yesterday.

I wish it had been possible to send you some Christmas presents but we have not known where to be sure of reaching you. I have not dared even to send some money drafts for your possible needs. Soon we shall hope to know definitely where you are and will be.

After hearing Crane's account we are more happy than ever for your escape from more serious injury and I pray unceasingly that you may be kept from all perils to the soul and spirit. May God bless you always, dear boy,

Your loving

Father.



*Robert Asper*

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APR 8 1921  
455  
SECRETARIES

Englewood, N.J. Dec. 31, 1918. <sup>7</sup>

My dear Elliott,

I wrote of a call from Crane we had last Sunday. We were all delighted to see him, and to get such late news from you. He brought your aviator coat and Marnie has felt very pleased to wear it several times this vacation. We are having the most bitter cold weather now, the ground covered with snow, the sky without a cloud, and the thermometer below zero. Yesterday morning it was 15 below on our porch. I am afraid such cold weather is bringing great suffering, especially as it is so hard to have an equal distribution of coal. Fortunately I laid in a good supply last summer, and I think we have enough to carry us well through the winter. I hope we have, and may be able to supply any neighbors who are short. Mr. Prentice, however, has plenty on hand now, and says he has a much larger supply coming.

I saw Max Chaplain last week, and he gave me the Orchard book which you sent. Mother and I were delighted to have it with your card. We were sorry we couldn't get any Christmas remembrance to you, but we did not know where you were to be, and do not know now. Max said you were waiting for your pass to India, but that when he went through London this had not yet come. Max was going up to Hartford to see whether he could resume his seminary course there.

I enclose a clipping from Uncle Timothy Stone which he sent with a note as follows:

"Love to all in your dear home. I am thinking of you and Elliott Constantly. God bless the dear boy. Send him 2 Timothy 2: 1-4.  
From "Uncle Tim".

Patty and William are having a fine time this morning playing with his erector material, and with a new electric stove which Patty has. She actually made some dough herself this morning, and baked some very good little biscuits in the stove and made cocoa on it. She and Billy have no anxiety to go out of the house these bitter days.



Elliott Speer -2-

The Bulkleys were all out yesterday for communion service. It was a beautiful service in the new church. The elders all sit up in the Chancel now with Mr. Davis and the choir. One misses something of the warmth and coziness of the old church, which wasn't beautiful, but which was dear.

Mother and Marnie were in town Saturday with the Luce girls, and various others visiting the Metropolitan museum, and I think the Luce girls are coming out tonight to spend a few days with the Sailors.

I have not been in any of the camps recently, and do not know how soon I shall get to any more of them. I have an urgent invitation now to go to England on a commission from our Presbyterian Church to the Presbyterian churches of Great Britain and if I do, shall go over to France probably. I am in great doubt as to whether it is desirable to go. There are many things to be done here, and I am not sure that such a mission presents any more important opportunities or greater need.

I gave Mother Morley's recollections at Christmas, and have been reading them myself since. They are very interesting, but very sad. Life, after all, did not hold the best things for Morley. He had no real God, and so he had no real joy. Life also lacked perspective. As one reads the reminiscences with all their human interest it seems like flat work, like painting on a marble wall instead of life with its near and far and especially with its <sup>endless</sup> lift upwards.

If you are in France still I hope you are not having such bitter weather as ours. It was good to know from your last letter that you were with Mr. Jefferson. I went with Marnie and Peggy and Louise to the Messiah last week, and we took supper at the Caffeteria, and met as we went in one of the Hotchkiss teachers, Mr. *Grant*. He was giving us tidings from Mr. Jefferson, but I did not know then that you and Pop were together. If you are still with him when this letter reaches you please give him my love.

With warmest and truest love from every one of us to you,

Your affectionate



Elliott Speer

FILING DEPT.

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SECRETARIES

1918

Speer

Manhood

Westcent

London

~~Princeton rather than India.~~

Finish training more important than India. Much love.

Father Mother.

To Elliott Speer, Ymca., 47 Russell Square, London W.C., England

Mrs Robert E. Speer, ~~156 11th~~ Englewood, N.J.

*Elliott Speer*

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SECRETARIES

January 18th, 1918.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Y.M.C.A.,  
47 Russell Square,  
London, W.C.  
England.

My dear Elliott,

It has been very hard to get time for letters these last few days, but you have been constantly in our thought, especially in connection with the cablegram which came on Tuesday. Mother telephoned it in to me and expressed her judgment and I cabled you at once as follows:

"Speer, Manhood, Westcent, London.  
Finish training more important than India. Much love.  
Father. Mother."

I felt like adding the advice to consult Dr. Cairns, but very probably you will have done this, and I know will have both sought the best judgment you could, and have put yourself in the way of prayerfully finding God's will. Mother and I know that you will be led aright. There was no question in our minds as between India and the going on with your training; especially at this season of the year it would seem a waste of time to go to India. You would not get there until the hottest season, and there would not be a great deal that could be done until fall. Furthermore your year's engagement would have expired in May, and that would be no season of the year to travel in India if it could be avoided. You would then be facing the question either of staying on another year or of waiting until fall and getting back late. Furthermore, as my letters have intimated, I have never been clear at all as to the wisdom of the India plan. That was not the work that you went over for, and it is only remotely connected with the war service. If there is work to be done directly in connection with the war that you can and ought to do, well and good, but as between Y.M.C.A. work in India, and the completion of your training here for whatever your life-work may be, I think the latter is far and away the more important.

We shall await with great interest further word from you as to what your plans are.

Max Chaplain spent a night with us a few days ago, and we were glad to hear very fully from him about you and the work. He is returning to Hartford Seminary to finish his course there. His decision as to what he should do, Sam Shoemaker's transfer from England to Peking, and Mr. Eddy's going out to China for work there are all significant, and I think have been helpful to some of the men who have felt the missionary call, but who have not been sure whether their duty was to go on in obedience to it or to take up for the present some work in connection with the war.



Mr. Elliott Speer -2-

I was in Washington yesterday for the day seeing some officials of the War Trade Board with regard to our relations to the work in Syria and having an engagement in the afternoon with representatives of the Roman Catholic War Commission and the Jewish Board for Welfare Work with the Secretary of War with regard to the work of Chaplains in the army, the enlargement of their numbers and their organization, if possible, into a corps like the medical corps. At the last moment the Secretary had to cancel his appointment, transferring it to to-day. I could not wait but had to return last night. I shall be interested to hear what the result of the conference may have been.

Dr. Garfield as fuel administrator has caused quite a stir by a drastic order limiting the use of coal for the next five days, and then for the 10 following Mondays. I don't know whether the order was absolutely necessary or not. The Newspapers denounce it, but I have no doubt that Dr. Garfield knows what he is about, and believes that such a heroic course of action is necessary. One gets increasingly disgusted with the newspapers. I am almost disposed to think that it would be a good thing to economize fuel by discontinuing the daily papers, and allowing it to print one issue a week. The amount of unimportant material which they contain is appalling, and one can never know whether their news is right even if he is able to discount their editorial judgments.

I have been at home four or five evenings since the beginning of the year, but am hoping to have things better in hand for the next fortnight, when I must go west as far as Chicago. They have had great storms in the west the last few weeks which have greatly aggravated the coal situation.

We are all very well and happy. I hope that you are in the best of health.

With warmest love from us all,

Your loving

*Elliott Speer*

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February 2nd, 1918.

My dear Elliott,

Your letter of January 10th from London accompanying the last pages of your diary, the last written and, according to your letter, the last to be written, came a few days ago. I am glad that you are considering the whole question again as the letter and your cablegram indicated. I have already written fully about it in reply, and we shall await now with interest further word from you as to your plans.

Yes, Max brought the leather coat, and Marnie is in love with it and has taken it off to Andover with her. I received also the copy of Orchard's book which you sent, and which I was glad to have for its own sake, and all the more as coming from you. As I wrote you also, we had both CFane and Max at the house, although at different times and had full reports. In both his last letters Dr. Cairns also has mentioned you with warm affection.

Everything is going along steadily here. There has been quite a flare up in the senate which I do not think was a sensible or profitable proceeding. I believe the government is doing just as well as it can, and that the kind of criticism indulged by Senator Chamberlain and Senator Wadsworth and the kind of proposals which they have made are not the sort of thing that really helps. At the same time some good may come even out of this in energizing men who are already doing everything that they feel that they can. I believe our war and navy departments have done wonderfully on the whole, and the Treasury department also.



They will be calling out the next draft before very long, and pushing them into the camps as the first draft in the National Guard are drawn out and sent across the sea. It is openly stated now that we have about half a million men in France, and that by next fall we shall have perhaps double the number that we had at first hoped. This is not censurable news as the newspapers are full of it.

Various bills have been proposed in Congress to change the draft ages, and Howard Dean seems to have got the idea that one of these bills was passed, which is not the case. The age still is 21 to 31, and it does not seem likely that there will be any change at present. If there should be difficulty in getting the next army or if still a third draft should be needed it is conceivable that the lower age limit might be reduced, but I see no prospect of that now.

I have had two earnest invitations within the last few days to go abroad, one from the Moderator of our Assembly to go as a member of a small deputation to visit the Presbyterian churches in Great Britain; another signed by the Archbishop of Sweden and the Bishops of Denmark and Norway, to come to a proposed conference of representatives of the Christian churches in the various neutral and belligerent countries, to be held at Upsala in April. I do not expect at present to accept either invitation, but one always looks forward with open mind for any new light.

I hope that you are very well, and that you have some really useful work to do even though the officers' inn doesn't specially appeal to you.

Major Loveland is back at present on a sick leave. He was teaching at the artillery school at Fort Sill, but is now I think at

Elliott Sperr -5-

Anniston, Ala. I don't know whether Harold Bulkley is still in Oxford or not. Do you hear anything about him?

Billy has been in the house with a little cold this week, and is having a happy time to-day playing about with Henderson Emanuel. Please give our warm regards to the Simpsons and to Dr. Cairns and to anyone else of our friends that you may meet.

With warmest love from all,

Your loving



*Elliott Speer*

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SECRETARIES

May 14th, 1918.

*chap XVI*

Mr. Elliott F. Speer,  
Y.M.C.A. 47 Russell Square,  
London, W.C.,  
England.

My dear Elliott,

The enclosed papers came to you here in Englewood. I do not suppose it is worth while sending them on to you, but I shall send them nevertheless on the chance that you may be interested in them and wish to make some reply.

I had a letter from Byron, written in Johnstown, several weeks ago stating that he was expecting to go to Camp Mead a few days later to be interned there as a conscientious objector. I have written to him trying to show him that a Christian man may thoroughly disbelieve in war and yet feel that in this war he may and must take part to rid the world of those political theories which make war inevitable, and to put down some of those international political policies which, if they are not put down, will mean more wars in the future. I shall send him also, as soon as I am sure of his address, a copy of the little book which I hope will be out this week.

I am writing at home in Englewood to-day trying to catch up with a great deal of back correspondence. Mother is in town having quite a luncheon of voluntary workers at the Camp Merritt Hostess House. William is over with his friend Peeny Homans. They are filled with the military spirit these days. The garden which he and Patty and I have planted is coming along quite encouragingly.

I am sorry to have to report that Mrs. Roland Vermilye is very seriously ill. She had a stroke on Sunday evening from which she has not yet recovered and Mrs. Holmes tells me that Dr. Holmes feels very dubious as to the outcome.

The pussy cats are playing around and they are very affectionate.

With a great deal of love from us all,

RES:C.

*Elliott Speer*

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May 22nd, 1918.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose herewith a letter from Buell to you and a letter from Max Chaplin to me which will be self-explanatory. I have no doubt that they are right as to the difficulty of any concentration on distinctive college work in these days. The work, whether at Yale or at Princeton, would be the more distinctively military training of the R.O.T.C. and of course on becoming 21 a man could not go on with his officer's training in College, but would then take up his duty under the military draft. It might not be immediately on becoming of age, but it doubtless would be shortly after. For example, on June 5th of this year all the men are to Register who became 21 during the preceding year. Perhaps Max and Buell are right in thinking that it is better to serve in France. One would get much more quickly into the direct military service there, and there are many other services opening immediately for any one. I can write more fully, however, I hope, after seeing Dr. Mott and Dr. Watson also if he came with Dr. Mott. Meanwhile I send on these letters without delay.

I am sorry to have to say that Mrs. Vermilye died last Sunday afternoon. The funeral was held yesterday afternoon in the pouring rain. Mr. Vermilye wanted me to conduct the service at the house, which Of course I did, and then we all went up in the wet to Brookside. Mr. Vermilye and Louise and Rowley are all taking it very bravely but life will be very lonesome for them now.

You will be sorry to learn also that Auntie Bepp died yesterday. As I wrote you on last Sunday, Mother went over on Thursday to be with her and stayed with her until the end. The funeral will be tomorrow afternoon, and I will try to get over if I can. Mother of course is still there.

Patty and Billy and I are getting along very well at home. I am working at



Elliott Speer -2-

May 23rd,

home to-day and we will have quite a concert this evening with some new rolls, among them some more of the patriotic ones which the children love. Their little hearts are full of patriotism and loyalty. It is one of the terrific penalties that Germany will have to pay for many a day that in the hearts of so many children all around the world the name of Germany is associated with what is dark and evil. Doubtless the children of Germany feel the same way toward others, but they will be a minority against almost the solid sentiment of the world for the next generation.

When William and I were sitting in church Sunday afternoon at Bethlehem an envelope was passed forward to me, and I found in it the enclosed photograph. William recognized it at once. Some lady, I think a Mrs. Myers, of Bethlehem, who was at Northfield ~~the~~ summer when I was not there, was the one who passed it forward.

The Red Cross campaign for a second \$100,000,000. if going on this week, and we have every reason to hope and believe that it will be a great success.

With warmest love from us all,

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*Elliott Speer*

*From File of letters to Elliott*

April 9th, 1918.

*Billy Chap 2<sup>nd</sup>*

My dear Elliott,

I enclose herewith a card which came to you from Princeton University. I have answered that you were still abroad and that I would forward the card to you at your London address, which I have given to Mr. Barret.

Are you in any need of extra funds? If so, please let me know and I shall be glad to forward you whatever you need.

I was at Hotchkiss School on Sunday and wrote you from there, but neglected to tell you that Burnham Carter was there and was one of the debaters on the debate between Hotchkiss and Taft on Friday evening. He did very well indeed.

I have just finished reading the galley proofs of the little book on The Christian Man, The Church and The War and am hoping to get the page proofs shortly. I do not know whether it will convince any one who does not already agree with the positions which it takes, but I hope that it may be helpful to some. I expect it to be criticized both by ultra militarists and by ultra pacifists, but I think its positions are right, or as nearly right as I can see in these very mixed up and confused days. In the first chapter I have tried to state clearly which I believe as a Christian man that the present war is just and necessary. In the second chapter I have dealt with the problem of the Church and the War and what the spirit and functions of the Church ought to be in times like these. The third chapter is an attempt to analyze some of the elements of the world problem and to show that the only possible solution is to be found in Christ. ~~I will send you a copy of the little book just as soon as it is out. I am trying to get you a copy of Thompson's "Divine Order of Society."~~

Billy is very fond of going up on his wheel to Camp Merritt. He and the other small boys who accompany him do not get any further than the military police



Page No.2.

sentries with whom they carry on interesting conversations.

I have spent a good deal of time lately in connection with the chaplain question in the army, regarding the Chaplains' Training School and the increase in the number of chaplains and am just rejoiced to hear to-day that the bill for which we have worked for months has passed Congress, increasing the number of chaplains so that we shall now have one to twelve hundred men.

I hope that you are well and that you are enjoying your work and finding it a useful and helpful service.

With warmest love from us all,

RES:C.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
47 Russell Square,  
London, W.C., England.

*RES Speer to Elliott Speer* *Apr 9. 1918*

*Elliott Speer*

FILING DEPT.

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SECRETARIES

June 16th, 1918. *Chap. VI*

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Y.M.C.A.  
47 Russell Square,  
London, W.C. England.

My dear Elliott,

Mr. J. M. Clinton has returned to you in my care the photograph which you loaned him of the first American soldiers buried in French soil. Do you want this forwarded to you or shall I keep it here for you?

I wrote you Monday evening at the Princeton Club just before I left for Andover. It rained hard Monday night, but Tuesday morning was beautiful and the Commencement at Abbott was all that it could be. The girls did not do very much themselves, except march around and plant a tree, and an ivy, and make a few little speeches between the two upper classes, but it was all very very pretty. George Bailey was down from Phillips at the church and walked up the Hill with Mother and Marnie and me. Henry Luce had come up from New Haven as one of his sisters was in the graduating class. Marnie was the shining intellectual light of the year. If you go back to Andover now you can bask in her glory. I came back to New York the same afternoon, but Mother and Marnie stayed over for a few days, and are coming back tonight. *Chap. VI*

I am writing at home in Englewood to-day. It is a cool, fresh day, with dark clouds blowing across a beautiful deep blue sky. The trees are in full leaf and everything is lovely. Some of our figs were destroyed by the frost just as a great many of the privet bushes were.

Uncle Ned Bulkley made an interesting report at church last evening regarding Dr. Dunlop. When he last wrote he had not yet been able to see Glaister.

*Chap. XVII*  
In my last letters I mentioned a paragraph from Mornay Williams letters which I promised to quote, which seems to me very suggestive and helpful. He writes:



Elliott Speer -2- June 13, 1918.

"I have been reading your little book with great pleasure, and I find as I almost always do, that my thought as to the war coincides entirely with your own. In my thinking, I have felt that perhaps the most succinct statement in reply to the suggestion that it is inconsistent for those who are opposed to war as itself an evil, yet not only to submit to the war, but enthusiastically to support it, is to point out that a war to end war is no more anomalous than is the death of the Lord Jesus Christ to end death. The whole scheme, as I interpret it, of our Christian faith, implies that. The sending of the Son of God to earth was, in the purpose of the Father, to make him a Saviour and Lord; to destroy the enemies of man, sin and death; in the accomplishment of that purpose, he who knew no sin was made sin for us, and he who was the conqueror of death died for us. If this war is really waged as a righteous war, it has in it all the elements, not of a crusade to recover an empty tomb, but of a sacrifice unto death to break the bonds of human enslavement, and with a new meaning we can sing the old stanza of the Battle Hymn of the Republic,

"In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;  
As he died to make men holy; let us die to make men free.\*"

I enclose copies of the Call for the day of Prayer on Memorial Day and the President's proclamation.

ch 274  
I had an interesting letter from Byron yesterday. He is in the conscientious objector barrack at Camp Meade but says he expects to be transferred to Fort Leavenworth in accordance with the President's order, a copy of which I sent you. He says that the men who are in this barrack with him are the most extraordinary lot of religious cranks imaginable, and that it makes it almost unendurable for him. I have sent him a copy of my little book, and I wish I could find some other good books to send him. I wish he could see his way to supporting conscientiously the position of our own government in its desire to bring this war to a just and righteous end, and to do it by conquering the wrong purposes of Germany and not by surrendering to it.

*In Speer with Elliott*  
Constance has just come in and wants to squirt herself with a hose to-day. I told her she would get pneumonia if she would do so. She has a stray cur, (nice doggy, she says) who has come in to-day, and who I tell her she can keep if he will eat up the two cats, and then we will find something that will eat him up.

Just what work are you doing in Edinburgh?

Uncle Coley thinks now that he and his family will go up to the Farm House, and they want us to go up with them. Constance, however, is going to the Camp Mystic, near Mystic, Conn, with a number of other little ruffians from Englewood. I still am undecided as to the summer. Perhaps it may be better for me to stay here for the summer and plan to go over next fall or winter. I can't say as yet, however.

With a great deal of love from us all,



*Elliott Speer*

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September 5th, 1918.

My dear Elliott,

Since writing you this afternoon I have seen the copy of Bulletin No. 37 of the Committee on Public Information in which the following statement occurs under the heading "Special Cases of Registration".

"Absentees may secure from any local board registration cards which will be filled out and certified, turned over to the absentees, and mailed by them to the local board having jurisdiction of the area in which they permanently reside.

"Persons in training camps, schools, colleges, and other similar institutions will register as prescribed for absentees.

This corrects, as you see, the information which had been given me earlier in the day. The bulletin contains the following regarding the regular mode of registration:

"The actual registration will be made in the customary voting precincts in the jurisdiction of each local board, or in such other places within the jurisdiction of the respective local boards as they select, and generally in the manner ordinarily employed in the registration of voters. Public notice will be given of the places of registration.

"Registrars appointed by each local board for each place of registration within its jurisdiction, will be present in sufficient numbers to allow one registrar to each probable eighty registrants, and the number will be increased whenever and wherever necessary to secure complete registration in one day."

I have sent a copy of the registration card, and all that it asks for is the name, permanent home address, age, date of birth, race, citizenship, occupation or employment, and name of nearest relative. Apparently that is all that will be covered by the registration on the 12th. ~~Thereafter~~ Thereafter no doubt registered individuals will either appear before the draft boards or fill out further statements.

Your loving



*Elliott Speer*

FILING DEPT.

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SECRETARIES

September 6th, 1918.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o Mr. James Bailey,  
Eaglesmere, Penna.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose a copy of a letter which will be of interest to you for the information that it contains although Dr. Clark tells me that there are so many changes and plans now-a-days that the program which he has outlined may be altered. But I judge that substantially it is what is to be carried through.

As the Government is pretty sure to standardize the work of the different colleges, I should think there would be little need of any further consideration of the comparative merits of different courses, and that the wise thing would be for you to regard yourself as still a student in Princeton, passing on now into the Sophomore year.

I judge that a great deal will depend upon the kind of work that men do in institutions and of the kind of men that they are as to the decision with regard to them when their draft numbers are called later. Good men who do good work will no doubt have some freedom of choice as to the form of service, and in the immense range of activities that must be carried on there will be many pieces of work of the kind that any man would be glad to give himself to with his whole heart and soul.

Looking forward lovingly to you home coming and with warm regards to all the circle in Eaglesmere,

Your affectionate

Elliott Speer

MAILING DEPT.  
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SECRETARIES

May 27th, 1919.

My dear Elliott,

Your letter about rooms for next year came yesterday morning and I showed it at once to Dr. Halsey, who wrote immediately to Mr. Duffield and also had Mr. Wilder of the Class of '79 write. I wrote myself too to Mr. Duffield so that I judge whatever could be done has now been done. Dr. Halsey said it was pretty late; if he had known earlier he would have had no doubt about being able to manage it for you. We shall hope that even now it can be done. Please let me know the outcome and also whether there is anything else that can be done.

I am sorry to hear that the chemistry work is such a hard pull. Don't surrender to the difficulty of it, however, but just make a fight there and win.

I got back from the General Assembly on Saturday. I had hoped to get home Friday evening, but missed connections in Pittsburgh because of a wreck. I had to wait in Pittsburgh all day and then came out on the night train. When I got home Saturday afternoon, Mother was having a Y.W.C.A. party with 60 or more of the young women out. Billy and I took a walk and then got back and shared in the party. While Mother was reading to the young women, William discovered that one of the robins was just coming out of its egg in the nest on the window in the gray room. He came down with that news and broke up the party for a time while all went up to study ornithology. All three of the little ones are out now in this nest. The robins in the honeysuckle vine on the side porch have grown up and flown away.

I am working at home to-day, and it is a beautiful half-spring, half-summer day. The foliage is so thick that the house is almost wholly shut in now.



Elliott Speer -2-

Patty and Billy have just started up to the Field Club where there is a May Fair for the benefit of the Hospital. I am going down to try a little tennis with Dr. Sailer after four o'clock. I have <sup>not</sup> played for several years, however, and my eyesight isn't as good as it used to be in catching the ball. I may have to come to glasses soon for everything distant.

I have a letter from Mr. Strong in which he wonders whether you and he and William Strong and I couldn't go off into Maine for a camping trip together, but I don't know whether it would be wise for us to leave Mother and the children and the others, and if you have to take guides in the woods and get an outfit, as I suppose we should have to do in Maine, the expense would amount up. Perhaps we can have most fun without extravagance at Diamond Pond as before.

I haven't seen your letter about the Liberty Loan trip. Mother tells me you had a fine trip and met with great success.

With a great deal of love from us all,

Your affectionate *father*

*Elliott Spear*

FILING DEPT

JUL 2 1919

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July 2nd, 1919

My dear Elliott,

I trust you had a good trip up from Northfield to Colebrook yesterday. Where did you have to change cars and what waits had you on the way? I could get nothing but upper berths on the White Mountain Express on August 1st so that I gave it up and have taken instead comfortable accommodations on the White River Junction sleeper Thursday night, July 31st. This will take us to White River, where we have to get off about one o'clock, and we shall then take the train that you took the rest of the way up. This will get us out to Colebrook Friday evening, August 1st.

Your trunk, I think, is all ready now, we are only waiting to see if we can get it checked or will have to pay express. George Barber is coming out to-night and we will find out whether he can take the trunk along with him when he goes out next week. I told Miss Bagley I thought you would want whatever clean clothes you had in the wash.

I enclose herewith a card that came for you. Is this a charge that you want to pay or do you want me to pay it for you? I have a bill from Rogers Peet & Co. also for a coat and trousers bought on June 12 and a pair of trousers on June 14th. I have not had a chance to find out from mother whether these are yours or not, but I shall see her to-night when I get home. Doubtless she will know.

The beautiful cool weather seems to have come to an end, and we are having good weather to-day.

With a great deal of love, from us all,

RES:C.



*Elliott Spear*

FILING DEPT.

JUL 8 1919

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July 3rd, 1919

My dear Elliott,

I enclose a note which came to you in Englewood from Mr. Duffield together with an envelope for reply. I enclose a note also which came from Mr. Duffield early in June in reply to my second letter to him, which I wrote in response to a suggestion of yours before I heard from you suggestion that I need not write again.

George Barbour went home with me last night and will be with us in Englewood for a couple of days. Mother and the children are safely home from Silver Bay, well sun burned. Mother is taking care of the Rogers Peet bill.

With a great deal of love from us all,

RES:C.

Encs.

FILING DEPT.

JUL 11 1919

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SECRETARIES

July 9, 1919.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o H. S. Little,  
Diamond Pond, Colebrook, N. H.

My dear Elliott:-

Your good letters of Friday and Sunday were both received. I have been trying to get your trunk started and think it was gotten off to you this morning. I have to be away now until Friday, but I am sending a note on to mother, sending her your letters and asking her to be sure to have the trunk sent at once if it has not already gone.

I have sent you the little book of Dr. Trumbull's that was on your desk. Miss Bagley has returned to Princeton and I am writing down sending the card which you had returned with a check for \$13.66, less \$6.75, and am asking the University Store to let me know in case this settlement is not correct.

Am glad you had so good a visit with the Moodys and am very much interested to hear of the proposed conference in August. It will not be possible for me to be there, however, as I promised Mrs. Kennedy a long time ago that I would speak at Bar Harbor on Sunday, August 31st. Mother and I are expecting to go down from Camp Diamond to Bar Harbor a few days before August 31st. Am not sure whether we shall get back to Camp or not. Indeed it is pretty certain that I cannot come back. I think it would be well for you to include Henry Wright and Robert Wilder in the list for the meeting.

Young Mr. Rockefeller has left for Maine. <sup>One can</sup> Always address him at his office here, 26 Broadway. I have forgotten whether his address at Mt. Desert is Seal Harbor or Northeast Harbor.

Your plans for Princeton next winter are very good. Dean Brown will be an admirable man for the course you have in mind in problems of apologetics. I should think the thing to do would be to make a combination of the University by which he would preach on Sunday and then stay over for four or five days, or perhaps it would be better to get him for the days preceding Sunday. In this case the University will pay its customary fee of \$50., I suppose, and I think it would be quite enough if you would offer him \$100. in addition if you are asking him to stay for four or five days. I should think \$100. would be quite enough to offer to a good missionary for eight mission study class sessions. Perhaps \$50. would be enough if you could get someone, a missionary, who might be staying at the Seminary.

I am sending the copies of "What Constitutes a Missionary Call" to the addresses which you gave. I think we have a copy of Mr. Moody's life



Mr. Elliott Speer -----2-

I shall look it up and if we have it shall mail it to you.

With regard to the Princeton rooms I wonder whether it would not be better for you to write to Mr. Duffield. I rather feel from his last letters that he might think I was pushing in. If, however, you think it is better that I should do so, I will write.

I think that Drummond's "Ideal Life" is as good as any book I know on the subject of the various forces which besides conviction of sin awaken men to a real surrender to Christ. I gave my copy away some time ago. Would you like me to get another and send it up to you?

I believe George Barbour is to be back with us tonight. He is going to stay with us for a while to take up work at Columbia Summer School. In that case he will not be going up to the Camp this week with the Wilders.

I had already got the drawing room and a section on the train to White River Junction for the night of August 31st. We could get nothing but upper berths on the White Mountain Express the next night. There are no boats to Portland now and it adds about a third to the expense to go around that way by train, so I think we shall take our chances and go by the same way you went.

With a great deal of love from us all,

RES:M

455  
JUL 28 1919

SECRETARIES

July 26th, 1919

My dear Elliott,

It was good to get your letters of July 15 and 20th. I saw Dr. McDowell at Mt. Hermon, where I went to make the Commencement Address last Tuesday, and Thursday I had a good talk with Max Chaplin. I think Max said that he had already written to you that he could not consider the work at Princeton unless he found it impossible to go to China this fall. He says he is already so well on in years and is going to have so much trouble with the language anyhow, that he must get to work at it at once. We had a good long talk about the matter, but he was quite clear and fixed in his mind.

Dr. McDowell told me that he had been waiting to hear from Guthrie Speers; that he had talked with Guthrie before Guthrie went up to Mrs. Hyde's and was hoping that Guthrie would accept. I told Dr. McDowell, however, that I had no such hope as I had had a long talk with Guthrie before he went to Canada and he told me that he was going to take a small church of his own this fall, and I have since heard from him by letter, asking my advice with regard to the churches at Greenwich and Bronxville.

I asked Max about Sam Shoemaker. He said that he understood Sam was going right into the Theological Seminary for the year, and that he had not yet reached America.

I received yesterday a notice from Mr. McAlpin of a meeting of the Board of Directors next Wednesday at one o'clock. I had told Dr. McDowell that I could attend a meeting at that time. I will let you know when we get up on Friday whether anything was accomplished. I trust that that there may be no doubt about getting Shoemaker.

Max's ideas of what the position calls for are very different from those of Dumont Clark. Max thinks that all idea of any faculty status should be dismissed from consideration.



Page 2.

I am writing to Mr. Duffield as you requested regarding rooms in Cuyler.

I might get to Northfield for the gathering there for the evening of September 5th and the morning of September 6th. I have to be here on September 7th to speak in the Brick Church. I think it would be very well indeed to have George Bailey.

William was surprised to learn from your postal card that the woods were so dry. We have had an unprecedented amount of rain down here. Since the rain, the weather has been delightful.

There is only half an hour in Boston to catch the train if we take the Metropolitan boat. That is too close a margin and we have decided to come up as originally planned, reaching Colebrook Friday evening at 7:30. We shall get the trunks off on Wednesday and I am writing to the Camp in the hope that they can get them without the checks and have them out for us on Friday when we arrive. We shall be happy to get up to the quiet rest of the camp.

I enclose a note received from the Treasurer's office at Princeton. I wrote the Princeton store stating that your shirts had been returned and sending them a check for the balance of the bill, but have never had any reply.

With warmest love from us all,

RES.C.

OCT 20 1919

452

October 14th, 1919.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
144 Cuyler Hall,  
Princeton University,  
Princeton, N.J.

My dear Elliott,

Dr. Currie could not give you an appointment first thing in the afternoon, but can see you at 11:30 Monday morning. I hope this will be convenient.

I have to go out to Ohio tonight and shall not get home until Friday evening. I must be in the office Saturday morning and afternoon, and am going to Pottstown for Sunday, so that I am sorry I shall miss your visit, but it was good to see you yesterday.

Your loving



455

January 23rd, 1920.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Princeton,  
N.J.

My dear Elliott,

I wish I could plan for the White Mountain trip with you next month, but while the cancellation of the Princeton appointment gives me Sunday, February 15th free, I have engagements for the 11th, 13th and the 16th, so that I don't see how I could get off for any distant trip. I am very sorry, as I should love to be with you, and should like especially to go up with you into New England in mid winter.

Patty has had a cold this week which has laid her up in bed, but she is much better.

You will be sorry to know that Joe Cavit died last night after a severe attack of typhoid fever.

Your loving  
*[Signature]*

FILING DEPT.  
H55  
APR 8 1920  
SECRETARIES

March 17th, 1920.

My dear Elliott, *Speer*

Your note with regard to Warren Stroud is just received and I am turning it over to Dr. Orville Peed who carries on just this kind of correspondence.

I am glad you had such a good time at Penn State. I spent last Sunday at Philadelphia with a meeting of the Philadelphia Student Volunteer Union on Saturday evening, a missionary address at the Sunday morning service at the Market Square Church in Germantown, a meeting at Ogontz in the afternoon and one at Bryn Mawr in the evening.

When I got home Monday evening I found Uncle Randell and Aunt Abbie Durfee and George Barbour and Charles Reed at home. All have left now but Charles. He and mother are coming into town this afternoon to Drinkwater's "Lincoln." Charles is a brilliant luminary at Hotchkiss. The School does not close for the spring vacation until Friday, but he was let off on Monday. All are well and happy at home.

Your loving,

EFS:C.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Cuyler Hall,  
Princeton, N.J.



WILKING DEPT.  
1920  
433  
SECRETARIES

September 28th, 1920.

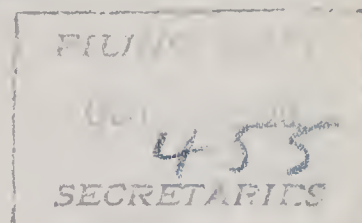
Mr. Elliott Speer,  
211 Cuyler Hall,  
Princeton University,  
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Mr. Speer,

I spoke to your father about your going to an oculist and he suggested my trying for the afternoon appointment with either Dr. Broughton or Dr. Jameson. I did so but neither of them could see you on Monday afternoon. Dr. Broughton leaves his office at 1:00 P.M. and Dr. Jameson at 2:30, except on Mondays and Fridays when he leaves at 12:30. I have therefore made an appointment for you with Dr. Broughton for Monday morning, at 11:30.

Sincerely yours,

*Elliott Spear*



October 13th, 1920.

Dear Mr. Spear,

I sent you (at 4:45) the following Day Letter this afternoon:

"Neither Wilder nor Haas available. Wilder suggests if available Harry Dorman, one hundred nine Lorraine St., Upper Montclair, Acting Dean Medical School Beirut. Stanley White suggests Professor Crawford of Beirut who is available. If latter desired communicate with A.W. Staub, Eighteen East Fortyfirst St., New York."

When I telephoned the Student Volunteer Office they connected me with Mr. Wilder himself. He says he is very sorry indeed that he could not come to Princeton on Sunday 17th but he has to be in Chicago. Dr. Haas is also going to be in Chicago. I asked Mr. Wilder if he could suggest any one and he promised to let me know later. I got word from him just before sending on your Day Letter, suggesting Dr. Dorman. I tried to get in touch with Dr. Dorman at the Syria Protestant College Office, 18 E. 41st St., but he had left for the day. Dr. White had suggested Professor Crawford and in speaking with Mr. Staub over the phone I asked him if he knew his plans for Sunday. Mr. Staub says Dr. Crawford is available for Sunday. If you desire to have Dr. Crawford you will have to explain all particulars as I did nothing more than make the inquiry as to his availability for speaking outside of New York on Sunday evening.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Staub's telephone number is Murray Hill 1992.



MAILING DEPT  
COPIES 1410  
455  
SECRETARIAT

~~Beirut~~

October 13, 1920.

Mr. Elliott Spear,  
Cuyler Hall, Princeton University  
Princeton, N.J.

Neither Wilder nor Haas available. Wilder suggest if available Harry Dorman  
nine Lorraine Street Upper Montclair, Acting Dean Medical School Beirut. Stanley one hundred  
White suggests Professor Crawford of Beirut who is available. If latter desired  
communicate with A. W. Staub, eighteen east fortyfirst street, New York.

Connell.

October 25th, 1920.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Cuyler Hall,  
Princeton, N.J.

My dear Elliott,

It was good to get your note on Friday. I enclose herewith the application for foot ball tickets in case you wish to make any use of it. As to our coming down, Mother says that she really does not care to go to the game and that Patty has already seen one, but that she would like to have William come. I think, accordingly, that I will bring him down with me for Sunday at Lawrenceville and we two will join you for the game. I have just received a letter from the foot ball Committee of the University Athletic Association of which the following is the first paragraph:

"The purpose of this letter is to arouse and sustain interest in football affairs at Princeton among all former players. Incidentally we wish to say that G. R. Murray has a complimentary ticket for you for any or all of the games this fall, if you will call at the Athletic Office when you arrive in Princeton. This includes bench tickets for the Harvard and Yale games. Bench tickets for these two games, however, must be applied for in writing a reasonable time in advance."

I wonder if this would include Billy and if it would be the best way for him and me to see the game, or whether such an invitation as this would be only for me. If this is what Billy would like could you stop in at the Athletic office some time and ask about it? Perhaps I had better send you the letter. Will you please return it?

If it is better not to take advantage of this proposal but to get seats with you, I shall be glad to send you a check covering William and me.

Patty is doing very well after her operation. She was out on Friday in the



Page 2.

lovely sunshine. She has been a most plucky soldier. A number of Margaret's friends wrote her letters. She has been very proud over Marnie's honors.

I was home yesterday and William and I had a fine long walk through the woods, covering parts that we had never been through before. We came into a regular fleet of birds on their southward migration.

With a great deal of love from us all,

Your affectionate,

Father.

c.

FILING DEPT.

JUL 9 1921

455  
SECRETARIES

July 7th, 1921.

Mr. Elliott Spear,  
C/o London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.,  
69 Pall Mall, S.W. I,  
London, England.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose herewith two letters from Daniel Eckert which will be self-explanatory. Daniel's wife is a trained nurse from Johns Hopkins, and Daniel himself has had a good thorough training for his work. I trust that they may have a long and useful life in India.

We had a happy Fourth of July. Mother and I put in the morning clearing up the cellar. It was a most oppressively hot day, so the cellar was a good cool place to work, and we wrought a great transformation in it. It looks now like an entirely different place. In the evening William had some fireworks. He and Magnus had made a proper amount of noise during the day.

<sup>argued.</sup>  
~~Mother~~ has now gone into New York to take up her work in connection with the Sage Foundation. The girls are to stay at the Froebel League, I believe on 72nd Street. I am sorry she can't stay here and go in every day. Last evening we all thought of her in New York in the withering heat, but fortunately about two o'clock in the morning a fine cool breeze started up and to-day is gray and overcast and very comfortable. I am working in Englewood trying to clear up the last of my correspondence. Mother has gone to town.

I am sorry that your eyes are still troubling you, and trust that you can find the cause of the difficulty, and either by rest or care or treatment get them in good shape.



Mr. Elliott Spear -2-

You will be interested in the enclosed papers that came to you regarding the Balsams. They did not seem to me to call for any acknowledgment. I should not want to invest any money in this kind of securities.

With a great deal of love from us all,

FILING DEPT

JUL 21 1921

453  
SECRETARY

July 19, 1921.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
England.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose herewith a copy of the tentative itinerary which we have prepared. As you will see, it is very indefinite and the Persia section of it is likely to be very greatly modified, but this will do to work with until we can send home some more definite word.

With a great deal of love to you and Holly,

Your affectionate



*Elliott Spear*

FILING DEPT.  
JAN 24 1922  
455  
SECRETARIES

January 23rd, 1922

My dear Mr. Spear,

We have all been made happy this morning by getting letters from your father, dated December 22nd and 23rd, written from Bombay just prior to his leaving for Busra on the 28th. He has sent us his tentative itinerary with the request that it be sent on to you. I enclose a copy in this. It is good to think of him as on his last lap of the journey. Certainly the grass has not grown under their feet and they have covered thousands of miles thus far. If only the going in Persia is not too hard I really believe he will get through this schedule in time to start back in April. We must all pray earnestly that the rough places may be made smooth for him.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your kind remembrance during the summer. Your postal card <sup>was</sup> reforwarded to me at Muskoka, Canada, where I was spending my vacation. You will know Europe pretty thoroughly by the time you turn your face homeward.

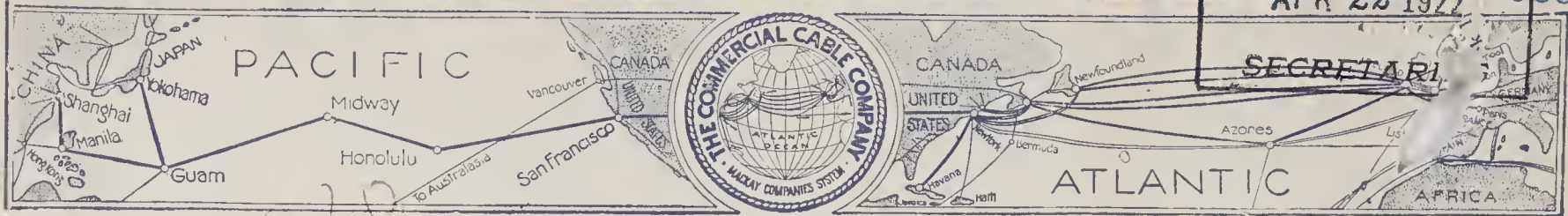
With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Spear,

Very sincerely yours,

# CABLEGRAM

*Elliot Spear*

453  
944 BROADWAY  
TELEPHONE  
RECTOR 0330  
APR 22 1922  
SECRETARI



**"VIA COMMERCIAL"**

APR 20 1922

RECEIVED AT \_\_\_\_\_ RP \_\_\_\_\_ M. SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BACK HEREOF, WHICH ARE RATIFIED AND AGREED TO

53XE TORQUAY 11

RP9 INCULCATE NY

TELEGRAPHERS OFFICE

WIRE MOST AUTHENTIC WORD FATHERS PLANS

SPEER HYDROTEL

*Torquay*

*Reply cable 4/21/22*

*[Faint handwritten notes and signatures]*



Elliot Spear

Cable

FILING DEPT.

APR 23 1922

455  
SECRETARIES

April 21, 1922.

SPER HYDROTEL TO MOSBY (ENGLAND)

SPER MIGHT REACH CONSTANTINOPLE TWENTYFIRST FURTHER PLANS UNKNOWN

CHARGE: 3 words @ 25¢ \*75¢

9 words @ 25 \$2.25 Paid by accompanying voucher

FILING DEPT.

APR 22 1922

455  
SECRETARIES

*Elliot Speer*

April 21st, 1922

My dear Mr. Speer,

Your cablegram reading "Wire most authentic word Father's plans" was received yesterday afternoon and I delayed sending an answer until to-day in the hope that some word might come in the meantime from your Father telling us of his definite plans after reaching Tiflis. Nothing coming, however, I sent you the following cable (to Torquay) this morning:

Speer Hydrotel Torquay

"Speer might reach Constantinople twenty-first.  
Further plans unknown."

We are surmising that your father will go on to Constantinople from Tiflis and have been sending him mail c/o the Bible House at Constantinople. He has not advised us yet, however, of his further plans. The last word from him was a cablegram, received April 3rd, reading:

Tabriz.

March 31, 1922. Arrived here all well. Leaving for Tiflis, Russia, April 11 or 12, 1922."

If Mr. Speer decides to go on to England from Constantinople it will take, I understand, about four or five days, by rail. It may be that he is waiting until he gets to England to send us another cable.

Regretting my inability to send you some definite word, and trusting that your and your wife are well, and that we may have the pleasure of seeing you this side of the Atlantic very soon, I am,

Sincerely yours,

C.



FILING DEPT.

JUL 14 1922

455  
SECRETARIES

July 7th, 1922

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o Mr. Henry H. Welles Jr.,  
Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

Just returned to city. Happy to take service next Sunday. Love to all.

Robert E. Speer.

Prepay and charge to R.E.Speer Personal Account.

FILING DEPT.

JUL 14 1911

SECRETARIES

Elliott Speer

To <sup>Mr.</sup> Henry H. Corlies Jr

Wilkesbarre

Penna

~~John A~~

Just returned <sup>to city</sup> ~~home~~. Happy to take  
service next Sunday. Love to all.

Richard Speer



FILING DEPT.

JUL 17 1922

455  
SECRETARIES

July 14, 1922.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
c/o Mrs. Henry H. Wells, Jr.,  
Glen Summit Springs,  
Mountain Top, Pa.

My dear Elliott:

I have been away since Tuesday at Chautauqua and Clifton Springs only returning this morning. I found here your letter of Monday and have telegraphed at once that I would be glad to take the service at your Mission Sunday evening. I will go down in good time so as to meet whoever is there and be of any help that I can. I am glad you will take the extra week with Holly. If it will help you any for me to take the service Sunday evening, the 23rd, I shall be glad to do that too.

I enclose herewith a letter which I found on my desk this morning.

I am sorry to hear that Mr. Wells is not well. I hope Henry is all right again.

Margaret and William were expecting to go up yesterday to New London to the Shearman's. I do not know when mother and I will be able to get away. I shall have to go back to Clifton Springs again the last week in July to another meeting of the Trustees.

With a great deal of love to you and Holly and all,

Your affectionate

RES-VC.

FILING DEPT.  
455  
OCT 13 1922  
SECRETARIES

October 11, 1922

Mr. Elliott Speer  
c/o Henry H. Wells,  
Glen Summit Springs (via Wilkes Barre, Pa.)  
Pa.

VERY SORRY CANNOT COME UNAVOIDABLE WORK HERE LOVE TO ALL

RES-KC.

ROBERT E. SPEER

PREPAID:

Charge to Mr. Speer's personal account.



FILING DEPT:

453  
OCT 13 1922

SECRETARIES

October 11, 1922

Mr. Elliott Speer  
Glen Summit Springs, (via Wilkes Barre, Pa.)  
Pa.

VERY SORRY CANNOT LEAVE FRIDAY HAVE THREE MEETINGS THAT DAY

ROBERT E SPEER

PREPAID:

Charge to Mr. Speer's personal account:

FILING DEPT.

MAY 23 1923

455  
SECRETARIES

May 18th, 1923

Dear Mr. Speer,

Thanks for forwarding the message from your father about ordering the Kodak. He had asked me to find out about the discount which we could get on them but did not leave any instructions about purchasing. I placed the order, through the Lantern Slide Department this morning and they have been very expeditious indeed for the Kodak has just been handed to me. I tried to get you on the 'phone - Spring 7609- but you had left. Will you be calling for it? It would be better than sending it by mail.

Sincerely yours,



FILING DEPT.  
OCT 16 1923  
455  
SECRETARIES

Dictated 10/8/23

October 11, 1923

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Bethlehem Chapel,  
Bleecker St.,  
New York City.

My dear Elliott:

I enclose herewith a letter from William A. Eddy with regard to biographical material regarding Zenos Miller, together with a copy of my reply. If you have any material, you might send it to Mr. Eddy, but I do not think you need to overburden yourself in the matter.

Very lovingly,

RES-KC.

FILING DEPT:  
JAN 5 1924  
455  
SECRETARIES

December 17, 1923

Mr. Elliott Spear,  
27 North Washington Square,  
New York City.

Dear Elliott:

On getting back to the office this morning I found that plans had been made to close the office on Monday, the 21th, so that I shall not be coming into town that day. If Saturday is free, , I could come in for lunch then. Don't disarrange any of your plans, however, as I could easily come some day later.

Ever lovingly,

RES-XC.



FILING DEPT.

DEC 31 1923

455  
SECRETARIES

December 18, 1923

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
27 North Washington Square,  
New York City.

My dear Elliott:

I see daylight now through the remaining days of the week. I have to go to Philadelphia today. Tomorrow I hope to be able to work at home with Miss Connell in Englewood. Thursday I have a Board meeting at luncheon but Friday and Saturday I am free. Please don't make it inconvenient for Polly or yourself, however. We will have Christmas Day and many more times.

Ever lovingly,

RES-KC.

x

June 8, 1934

Mr. Elliott Speer  
Mount Vernon, Mass.

Donald Barbour born London yesterday

Please inform Uncle Ned

Robert L. Speer

P. opay

Charge Dr. Speer personal



October 28, 1925  
Dictated 27th.

The Rev. Elliott Speer,  
College Hill,  
Easton, Pa.

My dear Elliott,

I wrote you a note on Sunday from State College and now as I am working through my letter basket I come to your note of October 20th asking whether I will be speaking anywhere in the neighborhood of Easton near enough to come for Vespers. I have just been looking over my engagement book and find that I have no Sunday appointments nearer than Philadelphia and there I have engagements morning, afternoon and evening. March 7th, I expect to be at Pottstown, but that is likely to be mid-winter weather, and one would feel very uncertain about getting across to Easton then. As to free Sundays, I have none until December 20th, and that will be vacation time. The next one after that is March 28th, and I ought to plan for one or two Sundays with mother here in New York.

I heard good reports of your address at the Synod of Pennsylvania.

I have written out an account of our collision near Liverpool on Saturday and enclose one herewith. Ought I to send this to the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for its information?

Your affectionate father

RES:C.

October 27, 1925

Mr. S. R. Moyer,  
Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Mr. David W. Reitz,  
136 So. Chestnut Street,  
Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Dear Sirs,

I enclose herewith a statement regarding the accident on the road between Harrisburg and Liverpool, Saturday morning, October 24th, when your car skidded into mine. As soon as I have a full statement of all the expense involved in restoring my car, I shall communicate with you. It is a most fortunate thing that no lives were lost. If it had not been for the solid highway fence, I fear some of us might have paid with our lives. Mr. Reitz was very straight forward and manly in his full acknowledgment of responsibility and his assurance of his full readiness to pay all expense involved.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

RES:C.



October 27, 1925

Mr. S. R. Moyer,  
Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Mr. David W. Reitz,  
136 So. Chestnut Street,  
Mt. Carmel, Pa.

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Very truly yours,

Enc.

RES:C.

ROBERT E. SPEER  
ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

Feb 18, 78

Dear Mrs. Cornell

A letter from Mr. H. R. Bergen slipped me some where. I don't know where it has  
gone. Probably into the file. He asks again for the \$200 perhaps check sent for his photographic  
work. He has done museum work since. He mentions I am a little irregular to  
would recommend it. Please ask Mr. Reischauer to look after it.

If Mrs. Jennings should ask for more money for the house please get it for  
her and have charged to my account.

Ever cordially

Robert Speer



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE  
OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN  
EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA

RECEIVED

APR 18 1925

Mr. Speer

April 16, 1925.

Miss Johannis G. Connell,  
c/o Dr. Robert E. Speer,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Connell:-

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th about Miss Jennings message. I think it will be alright to do as she asks and when I am in Englewood I will try to have a conversation with her and see how the thing stands. Many thanks for letting me know.

Mrs. Speer and the baby are both well and join me in sending their best wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Er. E. Speer*

ES:EIL

April 14, 1925.

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
College Hill,  
Easton, Pa.

My dear Mr. Speer,

Miss Jennings telephoned to-day that she needs \$300. for the expenses of the house, etc. I told us that perhaps I had better speak to you as I understood indirectly that you had some money in hand for your mother and perhaps we should get this from you. She seemed to think that this was purely a matter that concerned your father's account, and perhaps she is right, because, of course, his letter states clearly that she was to have whatever she needs for the house expenses. Anyway, I put her off until Friday so that there would be time to write you and to get your answer. She is to come in that day and, unless you think there is good reason why I should not follow your father's instructions to let her have whatever money she wants, I will ask the Treasurer's office to give her a check for the amount named, \$300.

I hope you are all well. Please remember me to Mrs. Speer and with kind regards to you both, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

C.



January 20, 1926  
Dictated January 19th.

The Rev. Elliott Speer,  
College Hill,  
Easton, Pa.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose herewith some letters from Mr. Hutchinson of Teheran which will be self-explanatory. I judge from these that he has been writing also to President MacCracken and perhaps to you. Will you kindly let me have his letters back with any comment? I trust that he is going to be happy and patient and efficient in the work.

I read with great interest the statement which you sent to mother with regard to religious teaching in College and saw also your letter stating that you were revising the statement. It seemed to me to be admirable, both in its form and in its spirit, and I am delighted to see the way you are working on this problem. You and Marnie have reached just unalloyed satisfaction to mother and me and we hope and pray that Pat and Billy will follow after you. Poor Billy got stung in sending \$3.00 in response to an advertisement not long ago. He is seeing if he can pull himself out of the hole and get his money back. If not, he will turn it over to me for a try.

The adjuster of the Travellers Insurance Company was in to-day and offered to pay the full bill for the automobile which I had sent in, with the exception of the item of \$50. for deprivation of the use of the car. He said the whole bill was altogether reasonable, that they appreciated the conscientiousness with which the charges were made out, but that they had to refuse to make payments for deprivation of use of car, unless it was in the case of chauffeurs and draymen whose living depended on their cars. He admitted that the charge was a just one, but he says that so many of the claims were padded on this point that in principle they did not pay such items without litigation. He was very decent about it, and as I had not been altogether sure about that item myself, I agreed to waive it and he promises to pay at once the full bill for replacement and repairs, and the \$45. in addition that I had to pay because of railroad expenses necessitated by the accident.

Mother and I are going down to Richmond to-morrow. Indeed she goes to Washington to-night, to speak to that meeting of the women there- whatever it may be - which the President addressed yesterday. We shall be in Richmond for a week, at Mr. and Mrs. J. Scott Parrish, whose address is 2315 Monument Avenue, Richmond, Va. We are looking forward to a very happy time. They are lovely people, and we shall have all kinds of friendship and hospitality surrounding us. I have the lectures all in print already, and shall be able to read them from the plate proofs. I shall have to cut out however about a third or a half of each lecture, to bring them into the time limits.

With dearest love to Holly and Caroline,

Your loving father,

RES:C.



# The Northfield Schools

(INCORPORATED)

MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL  
FOUNDED 1881

NORTHFIELD SEMINARY  
FOUNDED 1878

## OFFICERS

WILLIAM R. MOODY, CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ELLIOTT SPEER, PRESIDENT  
STEPHEN BAKER, VICE PRESIDENT  
JOHN L. GRANDIN, VICE PRESIDENT  
EDWIN M. BULKLEY, TREASURER,  
25 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK CITY  
AMBERT G. MOODY, CLERK AND ASST. TREASURER  
WILLIAM F. NICHOLS, ASST. TREASURER

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ELLIOTT SPEER  
EDWIN M. BULKLEY

East Northfield, Massachusetts  
August 6, 1926.

RECEIVED

AUG 7 - 1926

Mr. Speer

Miss J. G. Connell,  
c/o Dr. Robert E. Speer,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Connell:

If there is any occasion to use father's bank account I will try to see the National City Bank to straighten out the matter of power of attorney.

As for checking up his bank balance, I have not got his check books here, although I could get them if necessary. If I were in your place, I would simply overlook the receipt, as the bank says it assumes the account is correct if the receipt is not returned, and it is better to let them make this assumption than for us to make it ourselves.

I have written the Asphalt Roof Coating Company, and enclose a copy of my letter.

As for Bill's doctor's bill, there is nothing to do but pay it as nothing was said to me about it.

I hope you will have a good vacation, and that nothing will come up to disturb us while the family are away.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

E. S.

August 6, 1926.

Asphalt Roof Coating Co.,  
10 East 43rd St.,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

Your president's letter of July 30th to my father, Mr. Robert E. Speer, 52 Gramercy Park North, New York City, has been forwarded to me in his absence. I note that you suggest that you let the matter stand until Doctor Speer comes back. If there is a leak, as he intimates, it would seem well to me to have it attended to before snow and ice had settled on the roof again and done further damage to the inside of the house.

I'll be glad to arrange to have a representative of the family meet a man from your office at the house in Englewood at any time, if you will communicate with me.

Sincerely yours,



July 16, 1926

The Rev. Elliott Speer,  
East Northfield,  
Mass.

My dear Elliott,

Each time I have gone away from the country, I have left behind, just for safety's sake, a power of attorney for some one to use if necessary in my absence. I always leave a limited power of attorney here in the offices, authorizing some one to endorse checks which come in to my order; many contributions to the Board come in this way and the office is always able to distinguish between such checks and any that are purely personal. In addition to this, however, I have heretofore left a more general power of attorney with mother. Inasmuch as she will be going with me this time however I have made out the enclosed power of attorney for you to use in case of need. I trust, of course, that there may be no such necessity. It is possible however that questions may arise in connection with the property in Lakeville or with the house in Englewood if, as now seems probable, we have not been able to sell it before leaving.

The agent of the Lakeville house is Mr. E. O. Wagner of Lakeville. It is leased, as you know, for five or six months, I think. The lease will be either in my safe deposit box or in mother's. Insurance and everything else has been attended to. The only possible question that might emerge would be in connection with the water supply. The house has its own wells and water system but we promised the tenant that if these ran dry during the summer connections would be made with the village water. This would involve the laying of considerable pipe and an expense perhaps of a thousand dollars. We are hoping that it will not be necessary and Mr. Wagner was hoping that he could get the village water laid to a point very much nearer the house than is the case at present. If this is done the insurance rate will come down, and the connection of the house with the village water system will be a much cheaper affair. I am writing to Mr. Wagner that if any questions arise of any sort with regard to the property while we are gone, he should take them up with you.

We shall probably rent the Englewood house to Mrs. Edgerton, Mrs. Laud Brown and Miss Bagley at a more or less nominal rental. It will probably be better to have some one living in the house and taking care of it than to have it shut up for another winter. I have told Probst, the real estate man, that he could carry the house on his list, as he asked to be allowed to do, but that I did not want any "For Sale" sign on the property. I am telling him also that if any questions come up this fall, he can take them up with you. The price I have named for the house is \$55,000 but I presume that if we could get a cash offer, we ought to be willing to let it go for a little less.

My securities are in my safe deposit box in the vaults under the Fifth Avenue branch of the National City Bank at Fifth Avenue and Twenty-eighth Street, and my Bank deposit is in that bank. I am not sure how much I shall be leaving there, when we go, but I must let you know later. Your power of attorney will entitle you to draw on that account, if necessary. I shall leave my salary to accumulate with



Elliott Speer, p.2

7/16/26

the Treasurer of the Board, and if necessities arise you can take matters up with Mr. Carter who would recognize you as having full power to do anything that may be necessary.

The deeds, title *search* papers and insurance policies of the Englewood house and mother's will and mine, and a good many other papers are in the safe deposit box in the Citizens National Bank in Englewood. I do not remember whether that box is now standing in mother's name or mine, or both. She has used it more than I have.

There may be more questions that I should clear before I leave. No doubt all these matters are unnecessary, but it is best to be prepared for contingencies.

Mother and Patty went over to Easton yesterday and mother will be back to-morrow. We have had word from Billy of his safe arrival at the Camps and a nice letter this morning from Mr. Creelman saying that Billy is evidently an old hand at camping, thanks to the Diamond Pond days.

With a great deal of love,

RES:C.

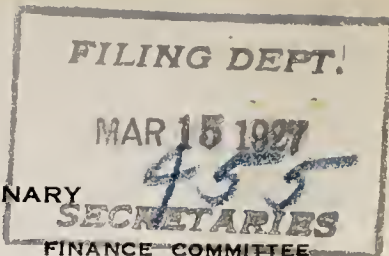


# The Northfield Schools

(INCORPORATED)

MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL  
FOUNDED 1881

NORTHFIELD SEMINARY  
FOUNDED 1879



## OFFICERS

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ELLIOTT SPEER  
EDWIN M. BULKLEY

East Northfield, Massachusetts  
January 28, 1927.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Father:

I should think that all you could say for Harry Brown would be to write him a line or two to use as a condensed endorsement of the camp site. I don't see how you could let him use your name by itself.

I enclose a copy of a letter I have written him regarding the whole proposition and Lee Klaer. Lee may have had some experience with camp work, about which I know nothing. I only know one side of it. If Brown has found that he has had such experience, he would be a good man for the place. He has a fine character, and would make a good impression with the boys.

Our colds are all better, and I only wish that Holly could get away for a few days. Perhaps there will be a chance for that in March, but I doubt if she will go before then.

*With a great deal of love to you - (I see*

*mother is off to Trenton)*

*Your loving  
Elliott.*

Copy

January 24, 1927.

FILING DEPT

MAR 15 1927

SECRETARIES

Mr. Harry H. Brown,  
500 McCartney St.,  
Easton, Pa.

Dear Harry:

I had already heard from Mrs. Coleman that you people had got together on a proposition for Diamond Pond. I have just had a letter today from Mrs. Coleman, asking me to give them my opinion of Lee Klaer. I'll probably write them just about the same thing that I am going to write you in answer to your inquiry.

He is a very fine chap, and should be able to get along very well with a group of boys. He was my choice for a position as instructor in the Bible Department at Lafayette. I should hope that if he went to Diamond Pond he would get a few such men, as his younger brother, Harvey Klaer, to go along with him as assistant counselors. I know nothing at all about his ability in camp work. From all that I know of him personally, I would be glad to endorse him heartily. My only question would be, as I have said, in regard to his experience of camp life, and consequently, his ability to formulate camp programs that will keep a group of live boys completely occupied and happy.

I will not write the Colemans about it, but I think you should know that Lee Klaer is not always absolutely sure of himself in his relations to men in college. I don't know how he is getting along now that he is on the faculty. Somehow or other, I assumed that he was a Chi Phi the last year. Since then, I have heard that he was not in any fraternity while he was in Lafayette. Of course, that is nothing against him.

I should think he might be bolstered up on the camp side of the work if you had such a man as Henry Harris to go along with him. Personally, I think I would rather trust the job to Henry Harris than to Lee Klaer. It would make a better impression on parents to have someone a little older at the head of things.

I can't think of any names to give you now, but if any occur to Mrs. Speer or me, we will send them along to you.

On rereading your letter, I see that you expect Klaer to "take complete charge of the organization of the campers' time, and of the equipment, and to make most of the contacts with the campers." I can give you no help at all on his ability to do that. In fact, I am rather in doubt if he is as good a man as you can get for such a job. All I know is that he is a fine fellow of good personal character.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,





*Handwritten initials or signature in blue ink.*

FILING DEPT.  
MAR 15 1927  
SECRETARIES

**THE BROWN-LEDGE CAMPS**  
**A VACATION-PLACE FOR GIRLS**

*Mallett's Bay — On Lake Champlain*

January 20th 1927

Dr. Robert E. Speer,  
*New York City.*

My dear Dr. Speer:

It may have come to your attention that the camp property belonging to Mr. H.C. Coleman of Philadelphia is to be used this next summer not only as a vacation place for adults but as an organized camp for boys in which they may gain the various skills which expert instruction in sports can give them and at the same time come under the influence of leaders of thought. It may interest you to know that the Reverend Lee Klaer, son of Dr. Harvey Klaer will be the Director of Camp Activities for the boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have suggested that you would be willing to allow us to use your name as a reference for the Camp. We are printing our booklet this week and will be very glad indeed to have your permission at your earliest convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

*Harry E. Brown.*

June 8, 1927

Mr. Elliott Speer  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dear Elliott:

Mother sent on to me in San Francisco your good letter but there was no chance to write any letters there and there is today opportunity for only a brief note to report my safe return home on Monday.

I got here just in time to share in moving from 52 Gramercy Park to 24 Gramercy Park, where we are very happily settled now for the summer in Miss Edith Hamilton's apartment. It is one of the nicest houses on Gramercy Park - I have known it for many years. Miss Hamilton goes to Mt. Desert for the summer and has insisted on our taking the apartment for June, July, August and September. We shall be very happy there although I think mother expects to settle down at Rockledge in a week or more. I shall try to get up occasionally to see them and shall hope to be able to spend a good part of August and perhaps as much of September as I find I cannot spend of August. September and October will be the loveliest months at Lakeville.

We had a very wonderful time at the Assembly and I will tell you all about it some time when you come down, or when I come up, as perhaps Patty and I will be able to do sometime before long to get the car and drive it down to Lakeville.

I find that there was one inquiry on the Connecticut card of application for car license that you did not fill in, namely: "With what kind of headlight device or lense is this car equipped?" What answer shall I give to that question?

I shall have to go off now to a luncheon meeting, but I shall try to write you more fully when our new Missionaries Conference, which is just assembled today, is over next Tuesday. Until then it will be one ceaseless series of meetings of one kind and another - morning, afternoon and evening.

We are all well and very happy and full of thanksgiving for all of God's great mercies.

With dearest love to Holly and Carol and Elinor,

Your affectionate



July 29, 1927  
(Dictated July 28)

Mr. Elliott Speer  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dear Elliott

Thank you very much for your note just received reporting that everything is all right with regard to the car insurance. Will you let me know some time about the bill for the floor mat which you ordered and which came some time ago and which Billy has installed in the car. I received a memorandum of the cost - \$8.72, but I cannot make out whether this is a bill or simply a duplicate of a bill which had been sent to you and perhaps had been paid. The memorandum I have is from the Greenfield Buick Company billing the mat to the Morgan Garage. Shall I send the check to you or to the Morgan Garage, or to the Greenfield Buick Company?

One of my most regular correspondents is Mr. Henry W. Rankin. I get volumes and volumes of letters from him and newspaper clippings. If only he would put in this time and strength on a biography of George Bowen, which he ought to have made his life work for the last thirty years, he could have achieved a really worthwhile task and saved himself the wasted energy of interminable ~~transitions~~ transitions in his letters to me. I have always tried to keep his goodwill and confidence and to be as sympathetic and considerate as I could and to feel after any truth that there might be in his constant criticisms of Will Moody, of the Trustees and of the two Schools, since Mr. Dickinson's resignation. I haven't bothered you with any of his letters but I enclose one now - not different from the others. Tear it up when you have read it.

Mother and Miss Murdagh came down yesterday as mother had to get the supports which she was having made for her feet. Miss Murdagh was going back to Oxford today and mother was returning to Rockledge as Patty is going up on Friday to Diamond Pond for a visit with Aunt Helen. I understand that one boy turned up for the Boys' Camp.

I am pretty well down to the bottom of all my letters. I should have had everything cleared up except for a day that I put in at Washington this week in a conference in the State Department over the new Treaty that must be negotiated with Persia. We are having troubles there just like those in China. If I were in the State Department I should have some plain talks

Mr. Elliott Speer

- 2 -

July 29, 1927

with the representatives of Persia and ask them what crowd they mean to go with - the crowd that is sliding down into economic and political and educational ruin, or the other group that is trying to recognize the universally right principles and to make some progress toward a better world.

I hope to get away now on Monday for August at Rockledge and to clear up while I am there if I can one or two books that have been hanging over.

Your very loving,

RES/B



February 1, 1928

Rev. Elliott Speer  
East Northfield, Mass.

Dear Elliott,

It was good to get your letter of January 30th when I got back to New York on Monday. I have had two good trips this last month - the first through the south and southwest, and the last in Ohio. There have been some very lovely experiences and only one or two minor jarring notes.

I am glad to know that Dr. and Mrs. Donald Fraser are coming. I think they will be a great help.

Schweitzer is, of course, a great theological liberal - very advanced in his New Testament critical views unless he has modified them, but unique, I should judge, in his personality and remarkable in his missionary devotion. I don't know what to say about the wisdom of inviting him. I think I would consult Dr. F. H. Knobel, President of the United Lutheran Church. His address here in the city is 437 Fifth Avenue. If Schweitzer were to speak on Africa I should think there would be no difficulty, and perhaps not even if he were to discuss Christian theology, although I imagine in this field his doctrine might be far from Northfield, while his life would be very near.

I haven't made up my mind yet as to the August Conference.

Thank you very much for the enclosed letter with the quotation from Bradford's book. I will show it to Mother this evening. I read Bradford's book with interest and wrote a little note on it for Mr. Pitt at his request for the Record.

Mother and Patty and I went to the Presbyterian Social Union dinner Monday night where I had to speak and without Patty we went last night to a testimonial dinner to Bishop Wilson of the Methodist Church, who is soon to retire, where I had also to speak. Tonight we have the annual dinner of our whole Foreign Board staff which is a very happy gathering.

I met friends of yours in a number of places this last month - some men who had been students with you in Edinburgh and others in Princeton. I didn't make a list of them and there are so many that one easily forgets them.

I have to leave tomorrow for Chicago for meetings there and at Springfield, Illinois, and Pittsburgh, Pa., and indeed have something on now I think for every night until February 24th, the day before we sail.

Rev. Elliott Speer - 2

February 1, 1928

The hearing in Billy's automobile collision has been deferred until April. That means that mother and I will be away at the time. Billy will keep you informed and I hope you can plan without fail to get to Salisbury for the hearing. The matter is in the hands of a good lawyer in Waterbury - Mr. T.F. Carrody. Of course it may amount to absolutely nothing and the case be dismissed, or it may be that some fine will be imposed. Anything in the matter of damages, whether to McCann or his car, will of course be looked after by the Travellers' Insurance Company in Hartford, and we ought to keep out of everything of that sort. The man in Hartford who has charge of such matters is John J. Nagle of the Travellers' Insurance and Indemnity Company, 57 Prospect Street, Hartford.

With dearest love from us all,

RES/B



February 1, 1928

Rev. Elliott Speer  
East Northfield, Mass.

Dear Elliott:

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With dearest love from us all,

RES/B



February 2, 1926

Miss Caroline Speer  
Care of Rev. Elliott Speer  
Northfield, Mass.

My dearest Caroline:

I was very glad to get the beautiful letter which you sent me with Aunt Patty. You draw just the same kind of pictures that your father drew when he was your age and you print just the same kind of letters that he printed.

Aunt Patty told me what a good time she had with you and Elinor. I wish I could have been with her to make a good long visit and to go out coasting and skating with you. Instead I have been traveling all over our big country and have been way down in the south where it was just like summer time.

I suppose that all the country is white with snow at Northfield now. We have had two little snows here this week, but even in the little park in front of our house the snow does not stay white but has turned all black and dirty.

With a great deal of love from us all,

Your affectionate

February 20, 1928

Rev. Elliott Spear  
East Northfield, Mass

My dear Elliott:

I enclose a copy of our mailing addresses. The time required by letter depends somewhat on the day of week they are mailed and the steamer they catch, but I presume it is safest to allow between three and four weeks.

I think I wrote you fully about Billy. His school bills are paid for the rest of the year and there is a fund of \$65.00 to his credit in the Treasurer's office at Hotchkiss. He is coming down for Friday night and I will give him anything more that he thinks he will need. In any emergency will you look after him until I get back, or he can write to Mr. Carter and Mr. Carter will charge anything to my account here.

Mother's will and mine are in my safe deposit box #465 in the Safe Deposit Company at the northwest corner of Fifth Avenue and 28th Street. All my securities and other papers are in that box. I have a set of keys to it and there is another set in an envelope in the safe in the Treasurer's office marked by my name to be delivered to you in the event of my death.

I have written to Boston to the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company regarding the continuance of the Fire and Theft insurance on our car at Rockledge, and the discontinuance during our absence of the accident and liability insurance.

With dearest love to all,

Ever affectionately yours,

RES/B



February 25, 1928  
Dictated 24th.

The Rev. Elliott Speer,  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dearest Elliott,

It was good to get your note of the 21st and I have a note from Macy's about a book which you have ordered sent us, to reach us Friday evening. I hope you will not think of making any effort to come down. The trunks are packed and are to be sent down to the steamer this afternoon and we will go down in comfortable time tomorrow morning. It will be a rest to get settled in our state room.

I have had three days of General Assembly Committee meetings in Philadelphia which were very profitable. I think we shall stir up some trouble as a result but I think it will be a good counter irritant to bring the Church up face to face with some great moral issues like marriage and divorce and with some great administrative issues, such as the establishment of a genuine supreme court of competent judges with final jurisdiction.

I am sorry you will not be able to have Stanley Jones, and I am glad that he has really decided to go to South America.

I think you need have no misgivings about Donald Fraser in Bible lectures at the Women's Missionary Conference; whether as a missionary speaker or as a devotional leader or as a Bible teacher he will bring a great blessing.

As to my coming for the August Conference, we will keep it open until I get back. Of course I want to help you in any way that I can, but I do not want to get into any work that is not really allotted to me.

Mother and Fatty have decided to stay in Europe until the end of June. They have taken passage home on the Aquitania I believe, which will get to New York early in July. I hope to get back on the Majestic from Cherbourg, on May 8th.

I am sending up three packages today that Mother gave me, one addressed to you, one to Holly and one to Caroline.

With dearest love to all,

Your affectionate father,

EES:C.

COPY

SS "Theophile Gauthier"  
off the Coast of Italy  
May 15th.

Elliott dear -

We have an obliging Captain on this ship. He has celebrated my birthday by going so close to the coast all day that one could almost touch it - first Sicily this morning with a glorious view of Aetna in the sunlight, 9000 feet high, and all white with snow, then the shore, with Taormina and the towns and villages looking absurdly like their pictures on the post cards, then the Straits of Messina, quite forbidding and awesome enough for their classic names and now - with the sky gray and the sea all dull and colorless, he has taken us right around Stromboli. Patty and I had stayed up until three to see it in the night, on the way out, and our watch was repaid by one hot glow from the central fires, and the great black outline of the mountain against the stars, but now we have seen it clear and close, first a mountain rising sharply from the sea, with little white villages at the base, and then, as we swung around a sheer black slide - steep and unbroken, from the crater to the sea, with the water black as ink in the shadows below - two thousand feet up one unbroken line. Up above smoke was curling up from a dozen fissures, and back of a jagged lone peak from the main crater, a great column of yellow smoke, went up in puffs and curls. Just once the column turned red - not all through; but mottled, as if red hot cinders were coming up through it.

It was an awesome sight - and we were so close that one could have thrown a stone from the port hole and hit it - that is, you could have, not I.

One can perfectly understand why the human mind - which has to see things in pictures, thought of these central fires as the scene of utter separation from God. The black slope, so impossible of ascent and the inky sea alone suggest perdition - the loss of hope and faith and light - and when the smoke rises and the hot glow comes primitive - and indeed quite sophisticated minds - are likely to think of torment and wrath. And yet on the slopes, a few yards away are clean little villages, and white churches and green vineyards.

Truly there is a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea, and even under a volcano and its smoke men have realized that the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

It has been a new and unforgettable birthday celebration. Tomorrow we land at Naples and then come Rome and "mornings in Florence," then Budapest for the Y.W.C.A. and - home.

All our love to you all -

Mother.



January 20, 1933

My dear Elliott,

Our friend Mr. Enkin sends me with great regularity newspaper clippings which he cuts out. I sent you some of these clippings, which he has marked for you, and enclose here his last letter which you may wish to read.

I have your note with regard to the Trustees' meeting on Friday afternoon, February 8th. I am sorry I have promised to give that evening to the Annual Meeting of the Missionary Review of the World. I always have to provide at that meeting and jolly things along. It is a little family affair, as a rule, where Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Schauflier have been the honored guest. Perhaps if the Northfield Trustees' Meeting runs on to late in the after, I could get in for the latter part.

Mother went off last evening to Akron, O., to speak at a Y.W.U. meeting there tonight. Patty was at home all of last week with a cold, but went back to Frye Farm on Monday. I have had a very bad cold myself, but have been able to keep going, and I think that I am getting pretty well rid of it now.

In addition to the Pierce Arrow car, I have ordered a seven-passenger Buick touring car, to be ready early in April. I hope we can all have time enough at Rockledge this summer to enjoy our possessions.

Several people have asked me lately with regard to your leaving Northfield. Miss Sylvester, who is Miss Emily Wheeler's companion, told me that Catharine Speers had told her that you were leaving. Two or three other people have given me either the same information or put it in the form of a question. I wonder what could be the source of such talk? I know how easily reports of this sort can start and swell.

I trust you and Holly and the children are all well, and that we may get a glimpse of you before long.

With dearest love,

Father

Rev. Elliott Speer,  
East Northfield,  
Mass.

Signed in Mr. Speer's absence

RFS:C?

November 26, 1929  
Dictated 25th

My dear Elliott,

I was glad to get the letter of November 22nd with reference to the campaign and also the bulletin which is very well done indeed, both convincing and persuasive. It seems tragic that you cannot easily get your money when such immense sums are lavished on objects not one-tenth or one-fiftieth as worth while. If there is any way in which I can help you at any time please let me know.

I was preaching near you on Sunday and was sorry that I could not come the rest of the way. I was speaking in the morning at Mt. Holyoke and at Amherst Agricultural College.

I am afraid I shall miss Thanksgiving here this week. Mrs. Kennedy has invited us all there to Thanksgiving dinner, but I had promised to make the Thanksgiving address at the community service in Youngstown, O., Wednesday evening and at Rochester Thursday morning. I think I shall stop off at Clifton Springs to see Dr. Lichty for a little overhauling. Dr. Dodd has wanted me to go there for some time. If I do that I may be there a couple of days and Dr. Lichty will know then whether I need to come back again later. The machine has been running very smoothly the last year, and I feel better than for a long time, although for that matter I have never felt any way except better.

Mother and Patty have their arrangements pretty well made for the holidays? They are expecting to sail on the Bremen on December 15th and return on the same boat on January 8th. Billy and I have not worked out our holiday plans yet.

With dearest love to you all,

RES:C.

Rev. Elliorr Speer,  
East Northfield, Mass.



February 20, 1950

Rev. Elliott Spear  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dear Elliott:

It was good to get yesterday your letter speaking of the sermon which was broadcast from Union College. I have had a number of letters with regard to it: One or two that would go straight to one's heart.

I enclose herewith copy of a letter from the Travelers Insurance Company. Mr. Dowty is the Adjuster in the claims department and his address is 57 Prospect Street, Hartford, Conn. I enclose also a copy of my reply. If the case can be postponed, well, and good. If not I will let you know and could you in that case arrange to be there with Billy?

Mother and I are going up to Rockledge this afternoon and I will consult Mr. Wagner about the matter also.

I am sending this in duplicate to you at Northfield and 27 Washington Square as I am not sure from your letter of February 18th, as evidently you were not, as to where you would be over Sunday. Mother and I will be coming back Sunday night I think.

With dearest love,

M.S.B

Copy of this letter sent to 27 Washington Square. N.Y.C





July 11, 1930

Rev. Elliott Speer,  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dear Elliott:

What shall I do with the book which you loaned me entitled, "The Mystery Maker"? I have it here in the office and shall send it wherever you direct.

I spent the Fourth of July at Lakeville and had a very happy day with mother and the children. Pattie came down today from Northfield expecting to sail on Wednesday on the steamship "Olympic" for Edinburgh. Cablegrams from the Barbers indicate that Mrs. Barber is very ill and not expected to recover and mother and Pattie agreed that it would be a good thing for Pattie to go over and join the family now. Whether they will be married this summer, - she and Bob, - or wait until fall, I do not know; but I rather think it is mother's idea and Pattie's that they might be married in Scotland this summer. In that case I judge mother will wish certainly to go over to be present at the wedding.

I have just seen the notice of the Northfield Tercentenary celebration the last week in July. It certainly would be worth going up to Northfield to see, but I doubt very much whether it will be possible for me to do this. Perhaps mother and I might be able to drive up on Thursday to have Friday there, coming back on Saturday as I have to speak at Norfolk, Connecticut, the following Sunday morning.

I trust you get good word from Holly and Margaret at Glen Summit and that all the family there is well.

With dearest love,

Ever your affectionate father,

RES:AH  
dict.

October 4, 1930

Miss Caroline Speer  
Care of Rev. Elliott Speer  
East Northfield, Mass.

My dear Caroline:

I am sending you herewith in a separate package a little book of pictures and poems about animals. I think the pictures are very good, and the poems, I think, are very true. You see there are no poems about horses and cows and dogs because the little book is altogether about wild animals.

I hope that you and Eleanor and Margaret are all well and happy and I wish that I might see you all again and that we might have some good play together.

I came home from Rockledge a week ago but may be able to go back again just for tomorrow. The flowers have been beautiful but I am afraid the frost will come before there will be any morning gloriess on the vines you planted in the secret garden.

With dearest love to all,

*Book marked  
Oct 6, 1930*



# The Northfield Schools

MOUNT HERMON BOYS' SCHOOL  
FOUNDED 1881

NORTHFIELD SEMINARY  
FOUNDED 1879

## OFFICERS

ELLIOTT SPEER, PRESIDENT,  
STEPHEN BAKER, VICE PRESIDENT,  
JOHN L. GRANDIN, " "  
EDWIN M. BULKLEY, TREASURER,  
AMBERT G. MOODY, SECTY. & ASST. TREAS.  
WILLIAM F. NICHOLS, ASST. TREAS.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

STEPHEN BAKER,  
WILLIAM W. CARMAN,  
JOHN FRENCH,  
WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY,  
GEORGE S. PALMER,  
ELLIOTT SPEER  
EDWIN M. BULKLEY

OFFICE OF TREASURER

25 Broad Street, New York

October 22, 1931.

My dear Elliott;

It has only now been possible to secure concurrent thought upon the questions of personal import, which were left open at the time of sailing.

Messrs. Stephen Baker, Grandin, Fry and I are clearly of the judgment that no change in salary should be made this year. It would be in every way strange to mark up for a year, when the Schools will be at a great loss through your absence, in addition to that which it must suffer in so crucial a season.

In all frankness I quote Mr. Baker, upon his authority, as questioning the success of the plan of dual service; but unless the proposed policy should be amended, or there be more untoward conditions, Messrs. Fry, Grandin and I, are prepared to recommend \$7,500 per annum, with the duties of the Chairmanship of the Central Committee, added to those of the Principalship.

With respect to the \$2,500., guaranteed in the form of letter of credit, the opinion is unanimous that the charge could not be made with propriety against School accounts.

Again, with absolute frankness, the thought is that I was too liberal, but it is agreed that whatever amount is used, will be apportioned between three or four friends, although this would be the very procedure objected to by you. Embarrassing as to you, it is scarcely less so to your friends, just now.


You will be disappointed in this word, and yet must recognize that it is the only position to take as Trustees, quite apart from the disposition of individuals.

You will gain very distinctly from the fall in Sterling, as compared with your first estimates; and I trust that without suffering anything of the nature of family discomfort, that you will find expenses in Scotland, in general, more in your favor. It would be quite happier to send you a message of reverse order, as it would be for you to receive.

With, again, all affectionate wishes for Holly and the children, as yourself, I am,

Devotedly yours,

Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Edinburgh.



EDWIN M. BULKLEY  
TWENTY-FIVE BROAD STREET  
NEW YORK

December 2, 1931.

My dear Elliott;

Quite anticipating Christmas, a small enclosure is made, which please accept as a family remembrance. I hasten to forward as mails are uncertain at this season, and even in so small a matter advantage is well to be taken of sterling rates.

I send in this form, which should best serve you. My name, of course, would be unknown to Edinburgh bankers in a general sense, but Mr. Torrance, or Mr. Simpson, or any one of the other friends, would gladly see the full equivalent given you.

Doubtless I shall write again before Christmas, but you will know that you are held in love which is unfailing, even if there be something akin to failures otherwise.

Most sincerely,



Mr. Elliott Speer,  
Edinburgh, Scotland.



December 24th

1931

Dear Mac,

I wrote to you just the other day, but since then a letter has come from Mr. Bulkley giving me a mild reproof for my request to you for further salary advance and for having Dave ask you for any money for my account. Now in the first place please keep to yourself and to Dave my letter of the 22nd. I will see that Dave is so well supplied with money to meet anything that comes that has to be paid for me that there will be no need of bringing up this question again. Mr. B. has evidently entirely forgotten what he said to me last September. He had kept me ~~in~~ in a state of uncertainty up til just before I sailed on the whole question of finances, and I do not want to get into a long distance correspondence about such things now. Especially as he has so much on his mind that apparently he does not remember what ~~has~~ passed between us last fall.

I am rather unburdening myself on you, but I hope that it will not bother you, and I am trusting you to keep this letter to yourself, though you might show it to Dave, before forgetting about it. I am enclosing a copy of what I have just written to Mr. B. Show that to Dave along with this.

I rather doubt if I would ever have come over here if I had known in advance that they were going to regard it as sort of a private trip of my own and leave me to finance it myself. Certainly if I had realized that I could have provided more money of my own to do it with. As it was they had intimated that this trip was not a ~~vacation~~ vacation but was work to get ready for the Hermon job, to get in touch with educational problems and new ideas, after all the time spent so exclusively on money raising in the last few years. Then with the increasing depression they got cold feet. Well, what of it.

You have advanced 3500 directly to me. Dave wrote, ~~today~~ received today, that he was going to ask you for 200 for my account. By this time I guess one of you has a letter on its way to me to tell me whether he actually got anything and whether it was 200 or the 500 that I named in my cable, which seemed to more than he would ever need, but I gave it as a maximum. Even if it is 4000 that is the total advanced, I assume that by Jan first ~~with~~ the total anticipated amount is only 2500.

I am not to be a downhearted. I have never been busier than I am with this work here. I have done so much reading that my eyes gave out again and I have had to get glasses once more for all reading. I hope that Mrs Mac and Ruth are both well, and that you are not having many worries there in the office.

With very best wishes,



40 Palmerston Place,  
Edinburgh, 23rd April, 1932.

Dear Uncle Ned,

It was fine to have word from you yesterday by the Mauretania and know that you are back in New York and able to be about once again.

Holly and I are fearfully sorry that you had such a long siege of illness and hope that you are completely through with it now. I am afraid it must be rather despairing to be in one's office in such doleful days as these must be in Wall Street.

We got back from our trip last Tuesday night thoroughly glad and grateful for the happy experience we had had. We crossed from Newcastle to Rotterdam three weeks ago on a tiny little cargo ship with no cargo. It had accommodation for ten passengers, so you can imagine how de luxe the quarters were. The North Sea gave Holly and Caroline a pretty rough time of it and held us back, so that we did not reach Rotterdam until 1.30 on Thursday morning instead of 3 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. No one can know what peace really means until one has come into harbour from rough days at sea in a tiny boat.

We spent two days in Holland before going on to Cologne and a week-end at Konigswinter on the Rhine, where we had our sole day completely free from rain, although rain never bothered us until we got back to England. Then we motored up the Rhine to Coblenz and up to Moselle to Treves, crossing to Luxemburg for the night. The next day we drove through Verdun to St. Mihiel over the Hill, on which I was wrecked in 1917, to St. Dizier then into Paris by Chateau Thierry in Belleau Wood. Maybe you have seen the beautiful Memorial that the Americans have put up there at Chateau Thierry commanding a glorious view of the Valley. We saw the American cemetery at Belleau Wood, with its buildings by Cram, although the cemetery is very small in comparison with French and British ones that we saw.

We had four good days in Paris with sight-seeing tempered to Caroline's taste and endurance. I think the high spots for her were the Merry-go-round and Guignol Show in the Tuilleries Gardens. On our drive to Boulogne we stopped at Amiens for an hour in the Cathedral before crossing the next day to England. The Channel crossing was rough and cold.  
Holly /



Holly picked up a chill and germ there that she had to pay off with four days in bed since we got home.

We had four cold wet days in London before we went to Jordan's Hostel, twenty miles out of the city, for the week-end.

Although I would never advise anybody to go touring around the British Isles at this time of year, we are all happy to have had the trip. We found Eleanor and Margaret well and flourishing when we got home on Tuesday night and our quarters in Palmerston Place seemed warm and luxurious in comparison with what we encountered in England.

In the Tower of London we saw pipes that the Romans had used in Central Heating 2,000 years ago, but the idea has certainly not grown here yet.

In another month my residence period in Edinburgh will be at an end. While in London I had a good talk with Mr Mackernass, the Educational Secretary of the English-Speaking Union and mapped out with him a trip for the first part of June to see some ten to fifteen leading schools in England.

We have just about decided to sail for home on July 2nd on the 'Transylvania' from Glasgow. That is a little earlier than we had originally planned, but we will have to get back then if we are to see Henry and Jo before they go back to China. Mrs Carnegie has very kindly invited Holly and myself to go up to Skibo for our last week in Scotland, although Margaret and Roswell do not get over until the middle of July; so it looks as if the next ten weeks are going to seem very short and full as well as interesting. But we will not be sorry when we are on our way home to see you all there.

With a great deal of love from us both to you and Aunt Lucy.

Edwin M. Bulkley, Esq.,  
Twenty-five Broad Street,  
NEW YORK.

December 25th;

Dear Uncle Ned,

"e are having a quiet Christmas Day here, and I think are enjoying it all the more for that reason. The children had such a stream of ~~parties~~ parties and that small digestions were severely strained and the result is that yesterday we had the whole tribe of them in bed for the day. But they were so good and quiet and happy and they were no trouble at all.

I have just gotten off to Dr Cutler a long letter about school affairs, and will not bother you with it. He can pass it on, if of interest. I suppose you have received from Northfield the information about the Wendells, requested in Mr French's letter of December 14th, copy of which was sent to me. Mr Coyle, Mt Hermon alumnus, was their summer parson, introduced Mr W.R. to Mrs. Swope, and so led to gifts from her to the Schools. I think too that Miss Wendell was on the mailing lists.

My letters home, copies of which I send you, seem so long that I have hesitated in sending them to you. For I am sure there is more interesting reading matter available for your few free reading moments. But I will continue to send them in the hope that you will hesitate not in consigning them to the scrap-basket, or its modern equivalent. the office file.

With very best wishes to you and Aunt Lucy for the New Year

Affectionately,



40 Palmerston Place  
Edinburgh, Scotland  
December 22nd, 1931

Dear Uncle Ned,

You are the most incorrigible of saints. If ever there were to be ~~xxxx~~ year when Christmas should be simple, this is it. But there is no use remonstrating with you at this late date. That you should never have been so very good simply makes it all the harder to express the very great gratitude which we again feel to you. One of the nicest things that ever happened to us young Speers was when we were adopted as nephews and nieces by you.

I do hope that this Christmas season is bringing some relief from the very great cares of business, which I know you have had. I have followed the meagre news of home in newspapers here with a growing feeling of truancy. Many times the only thing that has kept me from the feeling I ought to be at home has been the certainty that for my future usefulness there I desperately needed the study here.

It is good of you to ~~to~~ write so much of the news. We are looking forward to seeing the Man Dusens here soon, I heard he might succeed Dr. White as Dean. I suppose the news about Stewart Baker is what we have feared ~~ever~~ since the Warburgs entered so largely into the affairs of the bank. Several letters have spoken of Mrs. James illness. We are hoping that the next word will be of improvement on her part

Ten days ago we were at the Jehus for Sunday dinner and met the sister of the girl who is in your office. Fortunately for me most of the social invitations that come concern Holly, and so do not trespass on my studying, which is more and more demanding.

December 24th.

Dear Uncle Ned,

Your letter of the 15th has just come, and, as a rail goes off in a few hours, I am hastening to write. I am extremely sorry that again I add to the worries that I would like to be able to lessen, and am still more grieved at the thought that Northfield claims so much more of your thought with me away. I feel more like a truant than ever, and more than ever grateful for all that you are.

I wrote once in November about a further anticipation of salary, because initial expenses here had been far heavier than anticipated. That is not cause for concern though, as since these first expenses are met, the monthly cost since then is well below my estimates.

Last week I can't word asking that if needed money might be given  
of  
to Hiresall to take care a possible deficit in my bank ac count. I am not accustomed to running such deficits or facing them, but at this distance it is very hard to be sure that an adequate balance is kept, for paying such bills as do come in.

er  
Neither you nor the Northfield office will be bothered with any nuisance business of this sort from me, after this.

We are think of you and Aunt Lucy especially at this season.



December 24th.

Dear Uncle Ned,

Your letter of the 15th has just come, and as a mail goes off in a few hours, I am hastening to send a word in reply. Early in November I wrote the Northfield office. I have no carbon of the letter, and so am not sure of the date or of exactly what I said. I did ask MacEwen about the possibility of sending me one or two checks. As no answer had come ~~taxing~~ until this week- when two checks arrived- I cabled asking the transfer of money if needed to my Northfield account. Birdsall is taking care of any bills that come in, and paying them from that account there.

December 1, 1931

Rev. Elliott Speer  
40 Palmerston Place,  
Edinburgh, Penna.

My dear Elliott:

I am just sending off to Holly a package which Marnie left to be forwarded to you in time for Christmas and I am sending you also a separate package with some Christmas books.

We had a nice week-end at Rockledge after Thanksgiving. Billy came up Wednesday evening. We all went to the First Church Thanksgiving morning. Then mother and Billy went to hear Cornelia Skinner in the "Wives of Henry VIII." She was in college with Marnie and it is the same sort of monologues that Miss Draper does. Thanksgiving evening we all went to Aunt Vera's to a grand Cushman, Scott, Speer Thanksgiving dinner. Friday morning we went to Lakeville in a snowstorm and found the whole country white and that night was bitter cold with the thermometer down to ten. Saturday morning we had a grand country breakfast with the Wagoners and some friends who were visiting them. The afternoon was gray and cold with the snow still over the world and we went off for a grand drive over back roads and through the woods by way of Mill River, New Marlboro, Hartsville and Sheffield. In one of the little woadsy valleys a beautiful big deer jumped out of the woods just in front of us and leaped over the fence and ran slowly across the fields.

Billy and I insisted on mother's having an entire rest so that Billy was the waiter and I was the cook. You and Holly should have been there to see what rich meals the chef provided. Sunday for dinner we had - tomato soup, cold sliced turkey, stewed corn, stewed rhubarb, fried bananas, a salad and dessert with coffee and chocolate cake. Now could 40 Palmerston Place do any better than that?

We came back Sunday evening and Billy returned to Princeton Monday morning. Mother has been expecting to go up to Clifton Springs this week but she feels so spry that she threatens now that she will not go, at least until after the holidays.

We are delighted to get your letters and to know that everything is going so happily. I trust that you may all keep well all through the winter and come back in fine fettle next year. I saw Dr. MacCracken in Philadelphia yesterday and he said how glad he was to hear of your happiness in the work in Edinburgh.



Rev. Elliott Speer

- 2 -

November 1, 1931

I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the little | *family*  
Memoir of Dr. Aleider, prepared by the First Church. Perhaps Mr.  
Wells will have already sent you one of these.

With dearest love to all,

RES:B

February 26, 1932  
(Dictated 25th)

Refr Elliott Spear,  
40 Palmerston Place,  
Edinburgh, Scotland.

My dear Elliott,

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have just written to Marnie with the home news in it. It was good to get your letter with its simplified English spelling.

With dearest love to all,

Father

RES:C.



John L. Tildsley  
Park Avenue and 59th Street  
c/o Board of Education

This is the latest word Miss Baker has had from him. At that time, he was District Superintendent of the Board of Education, High School Division. She said that there was a write-up about him in the New York Times, but didn't notice whether his title had changed. (Sunday, Dec. 10)

July 13, 1933

Mr. Albert E. Roberts  
Kenarden Hall

Dear Al:

A Rustic Ridge acquaintance of mine by the name of Anderson, who runs some sort of a school in New York called to make the following suggestion and comment.

He is acquainted with Dr. John Tillsley, whom you remember is an old Hermonite and who is a district superintendent of the public schools in New York. Mr. Anderson says that Tillsley is in his opinion one of the ablest educators in New York, perhaps third best, but because he is a Protestant and is outspoken in his ideas of right and wrong, he has never been able to get along as he should. For instance, within the year he has been demoted.

On one occasion Anderson said he spoke to Tillsley about Northfield. The reply was that he did not come up very often because he and Doctor Cutler never got on well together, that he had never been asked up here to speak, etc., etc.

Tillsley was in school when I was. At that time he made a wonderful record both in Hermon and I understand at Princeton afterwards. He married a Miss Waters, a former Seminary girl, but neither of them have been back very often over the years. They stopped overnight at the Hotel with their children about two years ago.

I am just passing this bit of information on to you thinking that possibly now that Doctor Cutler has retired you or Elliott might feel like asking Tillsley up heresometime. I may add that when Tillsley was here in school he and I never got on very well together, but I have forgotten all about that now. He always seemed to me a very self-opinionated person and may be still.

Sincerely,

Ambert G. Moody



January 5, 1934

Rev. Elliott Speer  
Mount Herson, Mass.

My dear Elliott:

It is nice to get just now your letter of yesterday, although I don't understand your disapproval of our going to Rockledge last week-end in order to avoid the terrible conditions here in New York which resulted in your bad cold. It certainly was Arctic weather the first day at Rockledge: The thermometer had been 32 degrees below zero at Millerton the day we arrived but by Monday afternoon when we left it was 40 degrees above zero. Mother got a glorious rest, staying in bed from Friday evening until Sunday. She had a cold which is altogether gone now.

Nilly left at eight o'clock this morning with one of the boys whom he brought up with him and they were expecting to pick up one of the masters at Kennett Square and to get to Asheville sometime tomorrow morning.

Mother has been delighted to see Holly and Caroline here and says that Caroline carries herself in all the social gatherings like an experienced debutante. David McConaughy does have the doctor's degree and his address is - 510 Highland Avenue, Upper Montclair, New Jersey.

I was very glad to see the letter from Mrs. Pomeroy. I had forgotten her name but I remember the incident very well indeed. You and I had come over to the Big Pond on our way to the far to get supplies and we met these ladies with the car stuck in the mud on the edge of the woods between the camp and Little Diamond. I remember we had to put the chains on to get them out and I gave your hand a thump with the blunt end of an ax while we were digging some sticks under the ground under the rear wheels. I am glad if our Samaritanism at that time had anything to do with this generous gift to the Schools. Mother will be very much interested in the letter when I show it to her this evening.

I enclose a copy of a letter to Marnie giving the general family news for the week.

With dearest love, to you all,

RES:B

August 16, 1934

Dear Red:

I hope you have been having a good summer since your days of chauffeuring for the Rosses ended. At any rate, I imagine you have been hobnobbing with Einstein, getting ready to smash the math records when you get down to Princeton. The enclosed clipping was sent to me by an old friend who clips things out of the newspapers and sends them on. This was clipped a long time ago, but it may be of some interest to you before you put it in the scrap basket.

I've just had a tough time trying to find a man to succeed Monsieur Thiebaud. I have offered the job to a man named Dazgett who graduated from Harvard in 1926 (aren't I broadminded?). He has had six years of teaching experience in a boarding school and is said to be a fine French teacher. In addition, he can coach football, baseball and hockey, and was in the band, jazz orchestra and glee club at Harvard. He is a quiet fellow, but I think he will be a real addition to the faculty, if he accepts my offer.

Mrs. Speer and I are off on Saturday for Timogani and hope to be up there for two and a half weeks.

With very best wishes to you,

Ever sincerely yours,

Mr. Edwin P. Thompson  
25 Granite Street  
Westerly, R. I.